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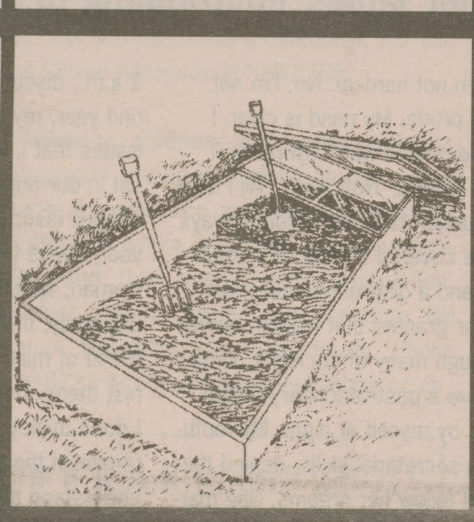
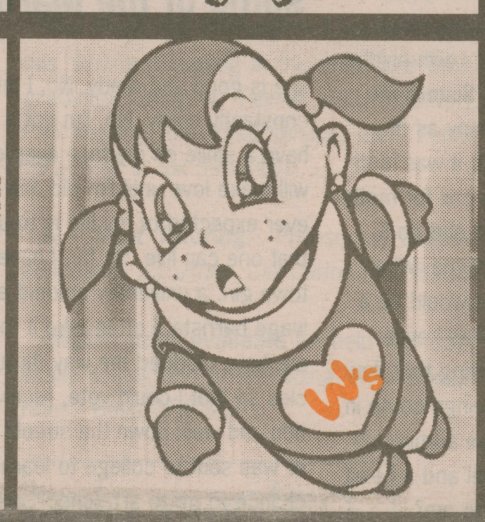
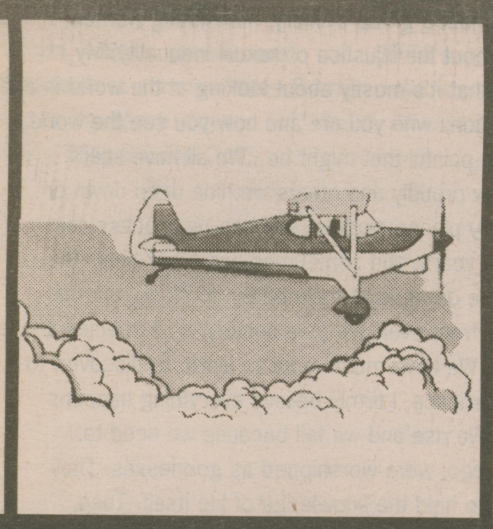
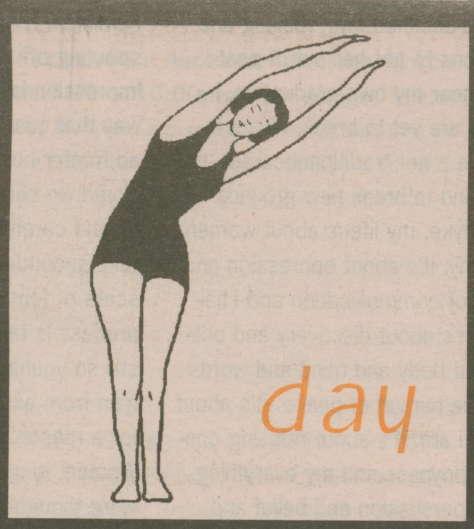
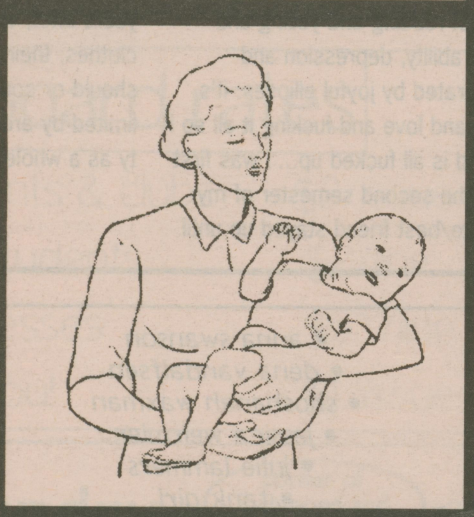
march 2rd, 2000 flying without bras for 52 years volume 52, issue 25

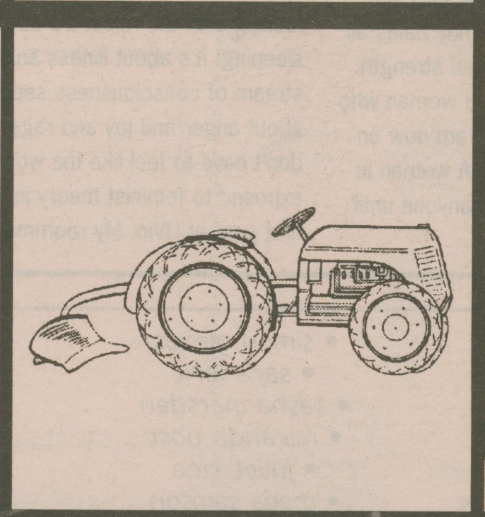


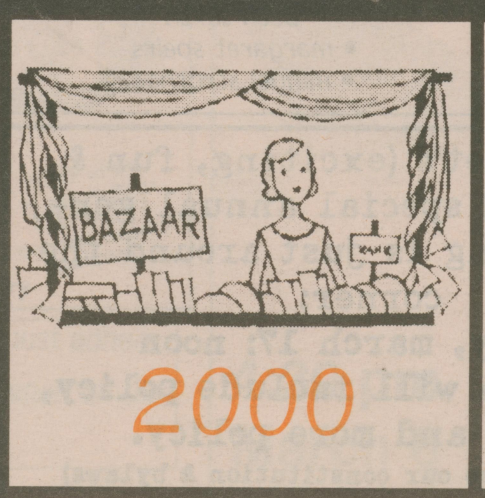












Contributions

Another issue has rolled off the printers this week, and this time it's in honour of International Women's Day, and women in general. This issue has been brought to you by the female staff, volunteers and contributors of the Martlet – a group effort like none we've ever undergone. Through our brainstorming sessions, photo shoots and rather chaotic assembly, we have discovered two important things: cooperation is fun, but it ain't easy.

International Women's Day is coming up next week: on Wednesday March 8, people around the world will be celebrating and remembering the contributions that women have made throughout history.

The women of the Martlet spout out some of their feelings about feminism and their lives.

Some of *the Martlet* 'ladies' contributing to *the Martlet*

martlet photo by kristin froneman

muriel & lily alice are the names of two women who have contributed to the making of one woman. six a.m. wheel moves, cast iron frying pans, patience, spaghetti squash, strength, salt & pepper shakers & independence... ok, the first day I realized I was a feminist I was about ten years old; we're driving down the Pat Bay Highway in the family Volvo - how I miss that two-tonned green beast - with Aretha Franklin and Annie Lennox singing, you got it, "Sisters are doing it for themselves." I felt the same epiphany as the day when I learned what procrastination meant; it was identification, familiarity, understanding... Lennox's call for mothers, daughters and their daughters to stand up and do it alone created an inexplicable yearning inside of me. When and what could I do? Whatever it was, I knew it would be a collective effort with my Mom and Grandma. Was I ever wrong. One of life's hardest lessons was realizing that they didn't even like the song very much... Great beings come in small packages. It seems like every woman I've admired in my life is short with wiry hands, a glare of steel and a heart like butter. Why were these women so strong to me? Because they had to get me to reach the casserole dish on the top shelf, because not only did they have to go up against men in each and every aspect of their life but also be discriminated against for their size. Oddly enough (to most men) they can do their respective jobs better than the men they work with or for. A friend of mine can tromp through thigh high snow for 10+ hours listening keenly for the beep of wolf telemetry collars and not get lost in the dense forests of the Rockies. Another goddess was the mother of two, head of the Afrikaans department at Rhodes University, battled breast cancer, lung cancer, mothered a foreign student for a year (me), managed to cook a hot meal every night and finally went to rest after a short battle with a brain tumor in the 14 short months that I knew her. My grandmother could ride and wrangle a horse into submission in an afternoon after chucking 70 lbs. hay bales all morning. I won't even start about their emotional strength. This is why I am a feminist... I am a 30-year-old woman who has chosen to abstain from sex for one year. I am now on month 11. There, I've confessed to the world. A woman in the prime of her life choosing not to fuck with anyone until she is good and ready. No, I am not hard-up. No, I'm not constantly horny. No, I'm not a prude. My mind is clear. I have a smile on my face everyday. And when I'm ready, I will make love until I'm old and wrinkly. 'Nuff said... All I have ever expected of my life is to understand the different ways that one can live. So far, I have covered the life of a small town girl, a university student and a disgruntled minimum wage barrista. I often take it for granted that women before me have plodded the way through many of society's obstacles so that I could vote, receive a post-secondary education and walk down the streets by myself at night. My mother was sent to college to learn secretarial skills, denied the chance to go to art school and follow her dreams. She married, getting away from her pre-destined fate, making one of life's most important decisions to get her out of post-secondary education. So as I near my own graduation, I wonder what sort of obstacles are yet to break. I want to know what it will be like to have a non-traditional career, to be an unconventional mother and to break new grounds for women in the future... i am a dyke, my life is about women. it's about revolution and anarchy. it's about oppression and privilege. it's about the power of communication and challenging the world and myself. it's about discovery and politics. it's about love and sex and body and mind and words and symbols and violence in the pursuit of peace. it's about being a woman in all the ways i am. it's about refusing conformity in my girlness and my boyness and my everythingness. it's about argument and persuasion and belief and fucking with the rules. it's about reading and yelling and sleeping. it's about illness and ability, depression and stream of consciousness separated by joyful ellipses. it's about anger and joy and rage and love and fucking it all so i don't have to feel like the world is all fucked up... I was first exposed to feminist theory in the second semester of my first year at UVic. My roommate/best friend stayed up until 3 a.m., discussing everything under the moon. In my second year, my best friend opened my eyes to many women's issues that I, in my sheltered world, had not considered. We sat in our adjacent bedroom doorways discussing more serious issues on a more informed level. Finally, in my third year, I have begun to truly understand what it is to be a woman; specifically, a white, middle-class woman attending university, though I know I have a lot more to learn... A male friend of mine recently told me that I shouldn't study feminist theory because I already spout enough of it. Personally, I don't think I spout nearly enough. It's this attitude toward feminism that reminds me how much I need to study and understand the many different ways of looking at the world. Feminism isn't just a group of hairy, men-hating women spouting off about the injustice of sexual inequality. My impression is that it's mostly about looking at the world in a way that questions who you are and how you see the world, no matter how painful that might be...We all have scars. Some we show proudly and others we hide deep down or behind carefully placed clothes. The healing process can take seconds, years, and sometimes, we never heal. The scars of female oppression have begun to close, but the process is far from over. We as a society, as a species are still so young. We have much more to learn, to discover, to gain from experience. I firmly believe everything happens for a reason. We rise and we fall because we need to. Women. long ago, were worshipped as goddesses. They were thought to hold the knowledge of life itself. Then, years later, women were chained and captive within their clothes, their relationships, and their own ideals of who they should or could be. We are not bound anymore. We are only limited by are own genius. Like the phoenix, as with humanity as a whole, we fall, but inevitably, we shall rise again...

contributors

- ann behennah
- meesha chan
- carmel ecker
- patti edgar
- kristin froneman
- holland gidney
- sarah glen
- simon glezos
- sara kirk
- tasha marsden
- miranda post
- juliet rice
- maya samson
- beth smith
- margaret speirs
- miguel strother
- anna swanson
- dena vandalfsen
- shoshanah waxman
- jessica weirmier
- julie lammers
- tank girl
- keely hunter
- anna king
- sutton eaves
- julie hutchinson
- brenda martin
- corbin
- gillian jerome
- david low
- jen lang
- and all the other great women who helped and inspired us this week

the Martlet's (exciting, fun & important) special annual general meeting is just around the corner:

friday, march 17: noon

The agenda will include policy, policy and more policy.

(drop by to see our constitution & bylaws)

the Martlet is hiring

an editor-in-chief, a production coordinator & a managing editor for 00/01. Deadline: March 17, 4 p.m. Drop by the Martlet office (b011) for job descriptions, details & relevant salary information. Talk to Meesha or Patti

Women gain new working ground

BY KRISTIN FRONEMAN

Women have slowly found their place in the workforce since the swing-shift years when they took over jobs left behind by men going off to fight in the Second World War.

The homemaker who worked in a munitions factory in the '40s has transgressed into the '90s businesswoman running her own show.

Nowadays, it's hard not to find a female doctor, lawyer, police officer or accountant.

However, men still dominate some jobs.

Look into a pool of computer programmers and it's mostly a sea of testosterone. The graduating classes of engineering schools, such as the one here at UVic, usually have few females in comparison to the many males receiving degrees and finding work.

In the arts realm there are many women in areas of design, photography and music, but there are still few woman movie directors winning awards, female animators with their own comic strips and women playing certain musical instruments.

People have been surprised when I tell them I have been working for the airlines. They ask me if I'm a flight attendant. 'No,' I tell them. 'I'm an engineer

In business, women have flourished, but they still have to struggle to get ahead. If they come across as too aggressive, they might be called bitches.

Jackie Heslop, Andrea Vickers, Anita Bonkowski and Rosamund Harcourt all have stories to tell. They each have excelled in their prospective fields in a world that has traditionally been reserved for men.

Heslop entered the high-tech communications world as a freelance writer. After contracting her work to various advertising agencies, a new international trading company in Victoria called WorldBid.com, which connects high-end buyers and sellers, hired her to write the company's business plan. After three days, she secured a permanent job to develop WorldBid's news service.

Anita Bonkowski plays 'em good.

photo provided

Heslop, who is also working toward her PhD in English at UVic, says high-tech communications is an exciting scene where doors are open to women. The problem is that not a lot of women are encouraged to look for work in the computer realm, Heslop says. Men often dominate jobs such as computer programming, she adds.

"Women are not being educated in high-tech fields," she says. "I really think girls need to be encouraged into playing and working with computers."

Bonkowski was in Grade 6 when she figured out what she wanted to do with her life.

The young student, who had been studying the piano since age six, saw a boy playing the drums in his high school band.

"I knew then I wanted to play."

Bonkowski ended up taking over the drummer's seat throughout high school and went on to become a respected player and music instructor both at UVic and Malaspina University-College in Nanaimo.

As one of few female drummers on Vancouver Island, Bonkowski is much in demand and plays with an 18-piece big band and smaller jazz, orchestral and rhythm and blues outfits.

Bonkowski says she has had to prove herself as a musician endured comments from people who say drums are a man's instrument. Someone once even told her that she wasn't strong enough to play the drums, she says.

"I've also been told that I'm pretty good, for a woman," Bonkowski says with a laugh.

Many of Bonkowski's percussion students are female and she says that women are making strides in what has traditionally been an old-boys-club.

"If you prove yourself, you can get ahead in the (music) field. Some people will always have blinders on but don't let the negative comments put you down. Keep striving forward."

As one of eight females out of 60 graduates from UVic's mechanical engineering program in 1997, Andrea Vickers (née Hirschbold) found work almost immediately after completing two co-ops with Canadian Airlines in Richmond. She was hired by Canadian to present employees suggestions in dealing with airline maintenance to the company's bigwigs.

She has since been hired as a team leader with DaimlerChrysler Aerospace, a company that overhauls and repairs jet engines. She is one of two women working for the company.

"People have been surprised when I tell them I have been working for the airlines. They ask me if I'm a flight attendant. 'No,' I tell them. 'I'm an engineer.'"

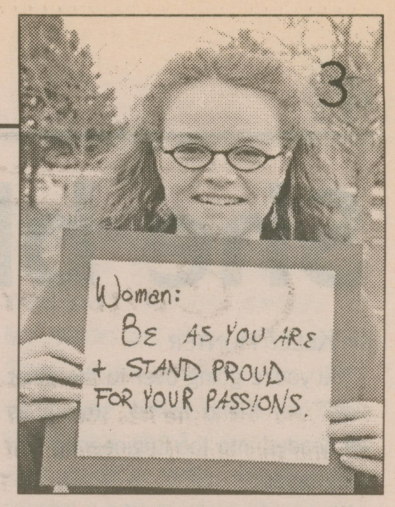
Vickers says she has been treated well in her industry and that the only problem she has had in regard to respect is with her age. The 26-year-old says she would like to encourage more women to enter the engineering field.

"There is a great future for women in engineering. We liven the stiff engineering field up a bit by giving it a different flavour and more personality."

Women-owned businesses are popping up everywhere in Victoria, including a few popular restaurants.

Two well-known female restaurateurs are the mother and daughter team of Betty Wright and Rosamund Harcourt of the Blue Fox Café on Fort Street.

Harcourt initiated the business idea while she was working three jobs in Vancouver and wondering what she wanted to do with her life. She returned to Victoria and proposed the café to her family. And in the past eight years since the Fox opened, people have been lining up outside the door, especially for breakfast.



Having a female-run business has not been an issue, Harcourt says.

The only exception is when she has had to play hardball with banks and certain people.

"The only thing I've had to run up against is people saying 'she's a tough one' or 'she's a bitch.' You have to be aggressive to run a business and accomplish things to make it work. It's just doing good business."

Harcourt says she would like to see more sisterhood in the industry here in Victoria where female business owners are more willing to help each other out.

Her advice to women who want to get involved in the restaurant industry and business in general is to "just do it."

"You have to do whatever it takes and give up a lot. It has taken a lot of hard work and long hours but in the end, it's been worth it."

Heslop, Bonkowski, Vickers and all those women who worked during the war would have to agree.

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She blinded me with science!

BY KEELY HUNTER

"So you're going over to the other side?" my friend asked, smiling as we headed into the Engineering Lab Wing foyer.

When we walked through the doors I was overwhelmed with the "science" of my surroundings: pizza smells and hockey commentary wafting on the air currents.

There are more women in Canadian medical schools than men. Education, humanities, and science and social science programs at UVic have more women. The number of women in UVic's business department is only slightly less than the number of men. However, engineering, math and computer science programs remain heavily weighted with men, especially at the senior levels.

They thought that scientists were geeky old men with crazy hair and glasses and that science was difficult and boring

Are women biologically different? Do women, as several guys have suggested to me in the last week, think differently and are therefore uninterested and less adept at understanding science and technology?

Dr. R. Kimball, a Simon Fraser University psychologist and women's studies professor, doesn't think so. She found no differences between the sexes in math ability until age 15, and the differences were more obvious in class and ethnicity as opposed to gender grouping.

"Gender differences often are not found," she said. "When they are, they are small and getting smaller over time. In fact, girls do better on school math tests than boys, though the margin is less than in other subjects."

Chris Brown, a second-year computer science major, shrugged when asked about women in his classes. "Women are definitely a minority," he said disappointedly.

Maryanne Wilson feels many women in her fourth-year computer science class have been discouraged by at least one professor. Many have heard they are incapable of graduating, their inability attributed to their being female.

Perhaps it is one or two people in the education system who turn off many. Carmen Leeming, a UVic engineer and professor had bad experiences only with some sessionals and the occasional employer at co-op interviews. She said her university professors were "very supportive."

Leeming said she found her confidence in the science labs of an all-girls' high school. She and several women grad students blame a lack of role models for the reluctance of women to enter scientific and technological fields. The only female engineer on television is on Star Trek Voyager, and the closest thing to a woman fascinated with the weather or bugs is a teacher: Miss Frizzle on the Magic School Bus. And what kid of either gender would call Bill Nye the Science Guy or his decorative female assistants cool acts to follow?

Another reason girls may choose other fields is unintentional streaming. Aptitude tests and SAT-like exams "under-predict girl's actual math and science results and over-predict guys," said Kimble. This has been pinned to distinctly different methods for answering multiple choice questions.

Fathers have only recently been involved with parenting and were traditionally the ones that were, or had friends who were, in the scientific professions. Counselors don't often show what possibilities a degree in engineering or physics might offer. A girl might say she wanted to be an architect, but will never be made aware of the engineering facets involved.

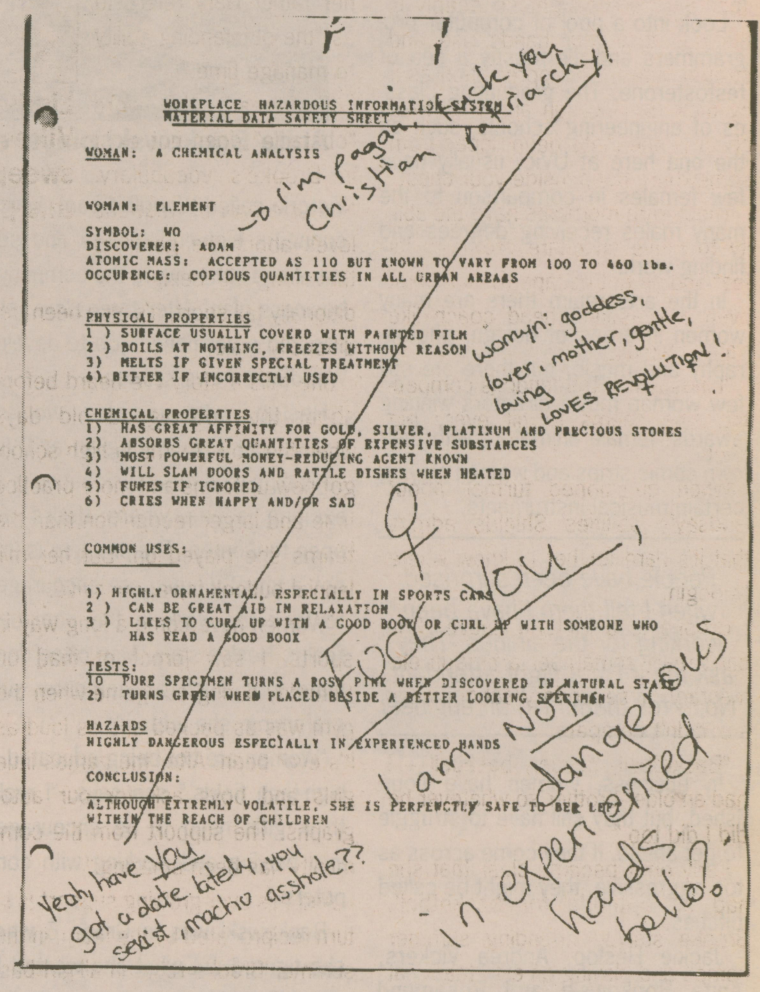
There are groups attacking the information void, and they are going for kids as early as Grade Three. Science Venture and GO WEST are trying to capture the imagination of young girls (and boys) using motivational, informational sessions and summer science camps to encourage more people into the field.

Another organization, CAGIS, is a science club for girls founded by a nine-year-old girl. Now a young adult, she explains on the website that the girls in her grade always hated science class.

"They thought that scientists were geeky old men with crazy hair and glasses and that science was difficult and boring. We rarely did experiments, and when we did, the boys in the class would do the experimenting, while the girls quite often took on the secretary role and wrote down the results."

When film makers and television writers increase awareness of what science really entails – conferences, creativity and research done by women and men who wear jeans and have homes outside the lab – girls will take a second look at joining the ranks of the hard sciences, computer science, math and engineering.

In the Engineering Lab Wing foyer, there are now several groups of women, including six micro-biology masters students. If the numbers of women in first-year science classes continue to rise, eventually graduate and post-grad figures will too.



The "Chemical Analysis of a Woman" was found posted on a bulletin board in the Student Union Building.

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Lindsay Brooke's got game

BY MAYA SAMSON

There are these beautiful moments in the life of an armchair quarterback when the physical act of fan appreciation is an out-of-body experience.

On Saturday night at McKinnon Gym I witnessed such a moment. During an intense game against University of British Columbia (UBC), Vikes guard Lindsay Brooke tied up the score with a three-point basket as the shot clock wore down.

That basket created one of those precious moments when you, the spectator, are caught so deeply in the ride that your hands rise and stretch outward in appreciation as if by their own volition and your loud cheer is one that's been ripped from somewhere deep inside your chest.

These rare moments have the ability to move an entire crowd to its feet and do not escape the notice of even a seasoned head coach like Kathy Shields.

"Lindsay is a tremendous competitor. She seems to hit every big shot."

When questioned further about Lindsay's abilities Shields admits that it's hard for her to know where to begin.

Brooke is a Victoria native. She can't really remember a time in elementary or secondary school when she didn't compete.

"Basketball, soccer, baseball – I had an older brother so whatever he did I did too."

Early on it became clear that she had an aptitude for basketball. Brooke started attending summer camps and playing on elite teams at a young age and playing provincially in high school. She has played on the Vikes for four years and each year the team has topped the Canada West division and attended the nationals. In 1998, of course, they were CIAU champions.

"Obviously I'm very fortunate to have played on this team. We've been really successful and the championship is definitely the big highlight [in my career]."

Aside from her athletic achievements, her father Gary Brooke is quick to point out that she's a straight A student and has been since she was 13.

"Her focus is on basketball, but her greatest asset is keeping everything in perspective."

Another thing about Lindsay Brooke — she's short in a world where height matters. Brooke is a self-proclaimed "five foot twoooooo and a bit." As an aspiring hack journalist I can taste the cliché before I even meet her. I gleefully anticipate a melodramatic story of triumph with television movie potential: a story of the girl who was told at every step of the way that she was too short to make it and yet persevered to become a varsity athlete and a first-team Canada West All Star. I ask her about her height and my dreams are immediately dashed.

"Everyone's always asking me about that. It hasn't really been an issue. I think I make up for it in other areas of my game."

Indeed, coach Shields would agree that the small one's contributions are huge.

"She runs the court and she calls and controls the play. She's the heart of the team in every way."

Simply put, Brooke is a natural leader. She is successful athletically and academically because of hard work and discipline and something else, which her father Gary refers to as "the outstanding ability to manage time."

It appears the word "obstacle" does not exist in Brooke's vocabulary. She said part of what she loves about the game is that along with being a traditionally tall sport, it's also been traditionally male.

She tells a story I've heard before about the not-so-good old days when the boys teams in high school got new uniforms and more practice time and larger recognition than the teams she played on. But her millennial outlook is very positive.

"Women have come a long way in sports. I saw [proof of that] on Saturday during our game when the gym was as packed and as loud as it's ever been. After the games little girls and boys ask for our autographs. The support from the community has been amazing."

And this ever-growing support is in turn reciprocated by the team. In the summer Brooke runs an all-girl basketball camp called She's Got Game with two of her teammates, Kim Johnson and Joanna Holdsworth.

The team also works with the Saanich Police Department in various outreach programs and school visits. These women are role models for a new generation of children and that's where Brooke's future lies: she wants to be a high school teacher.

Lindsay Brooke in action in the Vikes' Canada West semi-final sweep over the UBC Thunderbirds this past weekend at McKinnon.

Martlet photo by M. Strother

For now what she looks forward to is another shot at the CIAU championships and what she wants is a win.

See, the thing about sports clichés is that there is a lot of truth to them. There is such a thing as "heart" and there is such a thing as "team loyalty" and there is such a thing as "giving one hundred per cent."

These phrases came up repeatedly while I was researching Brooke but the one thing I never heard was "winning isn't everything." Because when you've come as far as she has it sucks to lose. And though the Vikes 1999 season was tremendous, what Brooke remembers above all is the loss to Alberta in the finals.

It's not an experience she wants to repeat.

Success at this elite level means another national victory and it is a pursuit that overrides gender specific boundaries – grace and strength are required in equal measure and Lindsay Brooke has got both in spades.

Women in sports trivia quiz

BY DENA VANDALFSEN

We know that guys can spout stats and dates about their favourite male athletes, but what do they know about women in sports? Bring your answers down to *the Martlet* office. We have five pairs of tickets to the women's basketball Canada West finals.

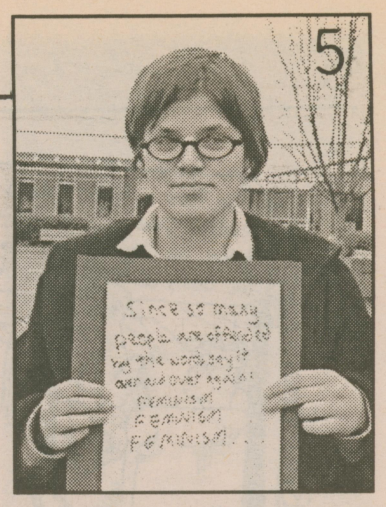
Our own Vikes will face the Calgary Dino's in a best-of-three series this Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Answers and the name of the winner will be published in the Martlet on March 9.

1. Who was the first woman to swim both ways across the English Channel?

2. What is the name of the goaltender of the 1999 USA women's soccer team that won the World Cup?

3. When was the first WNBA season?

4. The first black person was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1968 – what was her name?



5. Who was the first American woman to win five gold medals at the winter Olympics?

6. The first woman to play in a NHL game took to the ice in 1992. What was her name and what team did she play for?

7. The first professional women's baseball leagues were formed in the 1940's when the major league players were fighting in World War II. A Hollywood film was made about this event. Name the movie and two of its stars.

8. Who was the first woman to compete in a major stock car race?

9. What is the greatest distance run by a woman in 24 hours?

10. How many World Cycling Championships has Jeannie Longo-Ciprelli won?

11. Who is the fastest female sprinter?

12. What athlete, male or female, has racked up the most prize money in a season?

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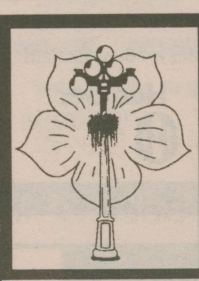

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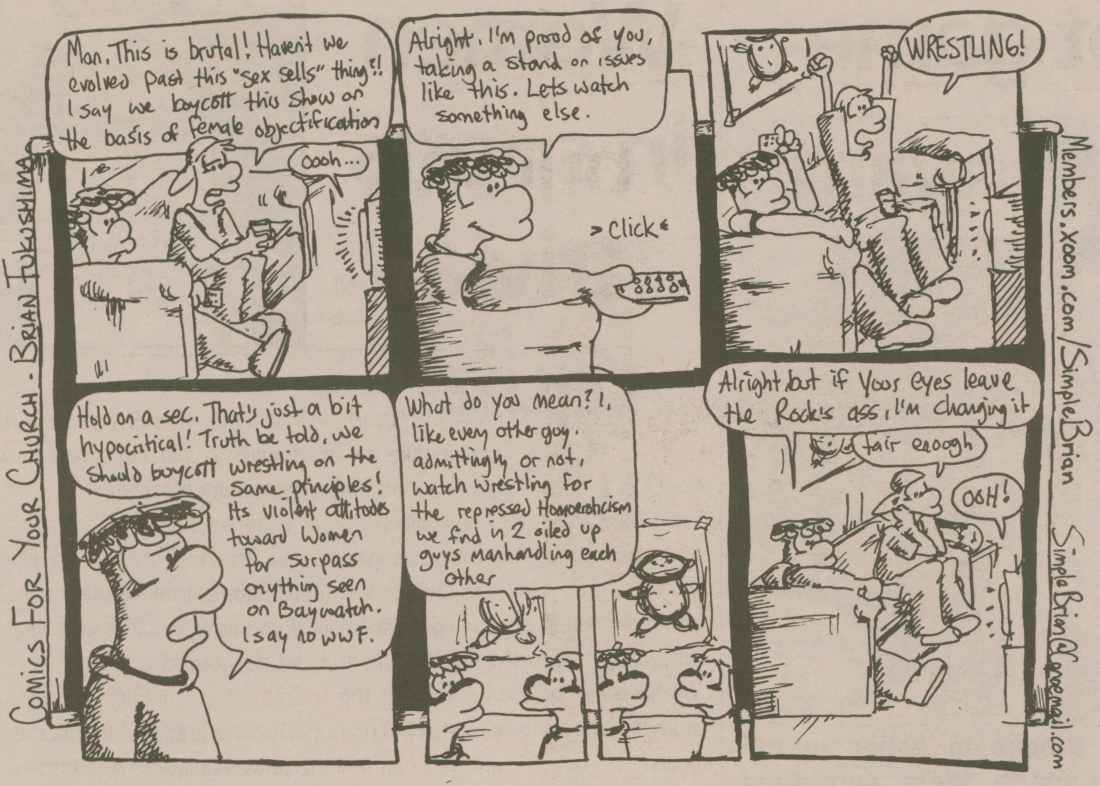
March 11 8:00pm	"L'Astronome" (a play by *Théâtre la Seizième,* Vancouver) in partnership with *l'Alliance française de Victoria*, Alix Goolden Hall
March 13-14 7:30 pm 9:30 pm	"Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois et francophone" *Visions Ouest*, Cinecenta, UVic
March 17 5:30pm	"Souper Cabane à sucre" organized by *les Scouts francophones,* L'école Brodeur



Vikes Update:

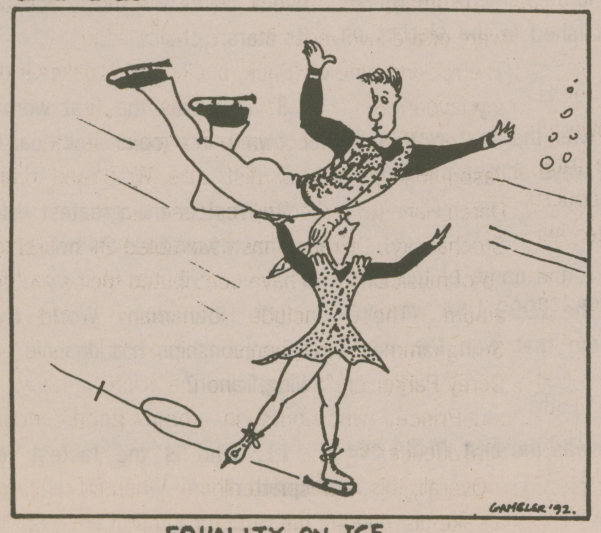
Basketball: The women advanced and the men didn't in Canada West semi-final action.

Swimming: UVic swimmers attended the CIAU Championships in Guelph, Ontario. The women's team secured a second place finish and the men's team placed third.

Track and Field: Vikes athletes competed in the Canada West indoor championships.

Look for the more detais in the March 10 *Martlet* sports section.

DICE



EQUALITY ON ICE .

Leadership not a sacrifice

By Carmel Ecker

"Mavis Henry is a legend in our community," said UVic student Laura Cranmer. "She's the Wayne Gretzky of social work."

Henry was a social worker for the Pauquachin Band when she talked to *Times Colonist* reporter Holly Nathan about the hidden sexual abuse within her band.

Because of the courage of counsellors and victims in the bands, Nathan's two-part series in the newspaper exposed the abuses of power in four Saanich Peninsula bands.

"Taking that kind of stand was an act of leadership," Henry said of her role.

Henry and her family were threatened with phone calls and letters for her involvement in the articles. She never considered backing down because she knew it would make a positive difference to her family to bring forth the stories of the victims, and she had a sense of responsibility for the kids who spoke to her about the abuse.

For Henry, leadership is not about leading people, but about helping them.

Women leaders often have to make sacrifices to help people.

"I think my own personal love life is a sacrifice because you don't have time to devote to your relationships," she said.

Shirley Bear said she saw women make big sacrifices while involved in the fight for changes to the Indian Act in the 1970s and 1980s.

Some women were away in Ottawa for so long that they lost their partners while fighting for Bill C-31 (amendments to the Indian Act), which would improve the status of native women.

The women focused their efforts on section 12.1(b), the part of the Indian Act concerning the status of native women in Canada.

They focused on 12.1(b) because the native men, who were also working to change the Indian Act, were more concerned with other amendments, said Bear.

The issue of women's status was important to the Tobique women and they had worked together for 12 years before the government amended the Indian Act, making status for native men and women more equitable.

"I feel it was worth it," Bear said.

Of Bear's work with Bill C-31, Henry said, "I think that's really hard because it's right at the heart of challenging a colonial government. [Trying to change the Indian Act] was right at the heart of what was emerging as a male-dominated leadership."

Because Henry grew up in a supportive community, she learned she could contribute and change things if she was willing to work hard.

"I think that kind of grounding made me want to strive to be better and strive to help other people recognize their potential... I believe that people have potential and they can contribute to important social change if people could hear what they're saying," said Henry.

Henry also has faith that the youth will take over leadership roles, provided her generation ensures they have the tools to do so.

"We must believe in [young people] and we must support them and we must encourage them in education and we must be able to put such a strong community and family underneath them."

Henry is currently working on her masters degree in Indigenous Government.

"My interest in work is really in capacity-building, strengthening education, health, child and family services at the community level."

Henry said some people feel threatened by women speaking out and taking leadership roles, adding that it "makes people look at how they think of human beings, not just how they think of women."

Henry said it is important for Aboriginal women to continue to fight to have their voices heard.

"We need to do more and more to exert the authority that's always been ours."

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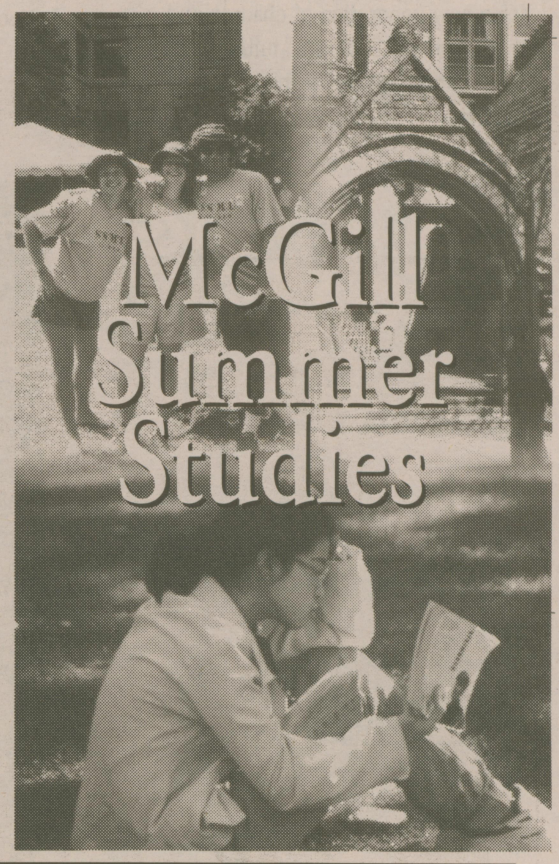

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SUMMER STUDIES McGill

Gender is not a genre

BY HOLLAND GIDNEY

Shortly after the success of Lilith Fair, music journalists (mostly male) started singing the praises of "women's music." There were large feature-length articles, an entire issue of *Rolling Stone* magazine and editors seemed to be putting women on the covers of their magazines simply because they were women. Overnight "women's music" became a whole new genre.

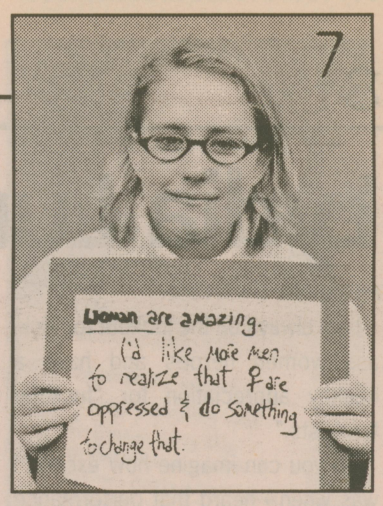
Rock 'n' roll has traditionally been dominated by men and this decision to further exclude women by relegating their music to its own category and labeling it "unique" and "different," is completely sexist and totally unwarranted. Yet it went almost unnoticed because the people referring to "women's music" were doing it in a positive way, they were pointing out how great women singers and bands made up of women were.

Right.

Ever notice how "all-boy bands" only ever refers to bands like the New Kids on the Block and the Backstreet Boys, but never to other bands made up of only men (like the Tragically Hip or Sloan or the Rheostatics or the Matthew Good Band)? Yet, it's perfectly acceptable to label any band made up of women (or even mostly women) an "all-girl band," or worse, a "chick band."

Musicians should be considered by the merits of their music, not based on whether the band members have vaginas or not. There is no need for a special category for "women's music." Music by women should be weighed alongside music by men because, when it comes down to it, good music is good music and bad music is bad music (regardless of the sex of the people who produced it).

Remember, gender is not a genre.



DiFranco: straight forward, no bullshit

To the Teeth
Ani DiFranco
Righteous Babe Records

.BY SHOSHANAH WAXMAN

If you haven't heard Ani DiFranco's latest album *To the Teeth*, you're missing out on one of the most powerful musicians of this century. If you are sick of the trite, meaningless bullshit that is overplayed by popular media, it is time you heard what singer/songwriter Ani DiFranco has to say.

Since releasing her self-titled debut album over ten years ago, DiFranco has been steadily touring and releasing albums on her own independent record label Righteous Babe Records (RBR). *To the Teeth* is her 15th release (two were collaborations with mentor Utah Phillips), and marks the apex of her career thus far.

To the Teeth is a mix of DiFranco at her best: overtly political, emotionally charged, and, as always, daringly truthful. The title track is about violence in the US, and how somehow we've confused "liberty with weaponry." Her last lines are "I'm gonna take all my friends / and I'm gonna move to Canada / and we're gonna die of old age."

This album is a continuation of DiFranco's move towards a more complex sound.

The mix of instrumentation and talent on this cd is outstanding, especially if you track her from the beginning, when she was truly a one woman army — just her and her guitar. The increasingly complex arrangements serve to augment her fabulous guitar and singing skills, and you can feel the powe behind each chord.

"Freakshow," a song I adopted as my motto, is a real piece of work. DiFranco plays all the instruments herself — concrete evidence of how multi-talented she is. "Hello Birmingham" will strike a chord with those of you who were or are involved in the pro-choice action on campus. The rocking tune of "Back, back, back" makes it one of my favourites.

In addition to her own band, consisting of bassist Jason Mercer, keyboardist Julie Wolf, and drummer Daren Hahn (who recently replaced the much-loved Andy Stochansky), DiFranco has assembled an awesome line-up of musicians who have contributed their talent to this album. These include Canadian guitarist Kurt Swinghammer, saxophonist Maceo Parker and rapper Corey Parker on "Swing," and the artist formerly known as Prince, who puts in some good vocals in "Providence."

Overall, this is a superb album. When DiFranco sings, it's like discovering the truth for the first time. She sings what she knows, and what she knows is real.

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Lydia Lunch: Sex radical or sensationalist?

BY ANNA SWANSON

I am always on the lookout for kick-ass women heroes and have a healthy appreciation for "fuck-me feminists."

So you can imagine how excited I was when I heard that performance artist and self-declared sex-guru Lydia Lunch was coming to town. I imagined someone who was pro-sex, pro-woman, pro-pleasure, with new ideas about how women can be powerful as sexual beings.

I wanted a woman who wasn't afraid to break out of political correctness to talk about porn and sex work and the gritty bits of sex that women still aren't supposed to talk about or enjoy.

Instead Lunch read mostly from a memoir-like book about her younger days hustling in New York City, and then later from a Web-based sex column. I liked that she presented her (often gruesome) experiences of having sex for money in a way that didn't glamourize the experience, or present herself as a victim without power. She talked about the ways she used men, suckered them out of their money, even in the midst of experiences that sounded horrible to me.

But somehow her descriptions didn't feel like they were presented to be either cathartic or empowering. She seemed to present the stories to us with the intention of making them as outrageous, unbelievable and gross as possible. I knew that Lydia Lunch's intent was to shock, but I wasn't sure to what end.

There is a wealth of power to be tapped by telling the stories that don't often get heard in public, and people often use shock value to drive home the reality that gets glossed over in peoples' minds, or to make people aware of the prejudices and stereotypes they hold inside. Unfortunately, her use of graphic detail with the apparent aim of shocking and grossing out her audience didn't have the effect of challenging me at all.

Again with her sex column, I appreciated that she could talk freely about sex, but to me it seemed like she only wanted to sensationalize sexual activities that are taboo rather than change people's perceptions. She freely admits in her interview with *Offbeat* that she writes most of the letters herself. I assume, then, that the level of graphic detail is meant to be ridiculous and to make the audience laugh at someone else's expense by drawing on their fear and repulsion.

I don't happen to mix sex and shit, but I don't think that people are freaks if they have kinks that I don't understand. I would much rather listen to someone who used their bluntness to stretch my views about things I haven't experienced, rather than making jokes at someone else's expense. It reminded me of frat boys sitting around reading gay personals, exaggerating with bravado descriptions of sexual acts to produce a strange brand of repulsed titillation. Does their ability to talk graphically about anal sex and other sexual acts help dispel homophobia? Not really. It lets people feel justified and supported in their repulsion and fear.

photo provided

It reminded me of frat boys sitting around reading gay personals, exaggerating with bravado descriptions of sexual acts to produce a strange brand of repulsed titillation

Another aspect of the show that bothered me was the constant belittling of men as part of her radical-woman role. I don't happen to believe that putting men down makes women stronger. I do support space for women to be allowed their anger against men because that's real and people find it threatening. Many women have been branded man-haters (a label used to discredit them), simply for being angry or for not wanting to sleep with men. That being said, I don't think it's radical or kick-ass to gain power as women by trashing all men. I don't believe any real or constructive power comes from making someone else small. It may sound tough, but in my opinion it actually feeds the status quo.

Then I was really in for a shock when I heard her say something about how everything was going okay "until that damn Jew Yani fucked it all up." People around me either understood this in some way that I didn't, or suddenly I was surrounded by a bunch of people I love and respect who were laughing at an anti-Jew joke. I agree with breaking down the confines of political-correctness that stifle us, but that doesn't give anyone a license to make racist or anti-Semitic remarks. It's gutsy to go against what is "acceptable," but that doesn't necessarily make it radical.

On our way out, someone asked if it was "too much" for us, implying that we were prudes if any of this offended us. I expected Lydia Lunch to be a kick-ass woman who offered us a radical view of the ways a woman can be powerful.

Not only was I disappointed by her lack of radical thought, I was also offended by the constant putting down of people for amusement, her attitude towards the audience, and her use of shock value to titillate rather than to challenge. Even though she was constantly explicit and seemed intent on shocking or disgusting her audience (or maybe because of that), her writing never seemed to reach beyond the surface: She didn't make me care, or challenge my perception.

At one point, she read out one of her Internet columns about a man who writes in saying that he really loves his girlfriend but can only enjoy sex with people he hates. She replied by saying it isn't all that uncommon and she can understand since when you hate someone you're a lot freer to be the pig you really are, and the person becomes a receptacle for your hate and that can feel great. That was the point at which I realized that as a member of the audience, I felt like a receptacle for hate or anger or something not very pretty. And that wasn't okay with me. She described how when she first started performing, she thought of her audience as a john whom she could hustle, use, and manipulate. I didn't feel challenged by her performance — I felt used, manipulated and angry.

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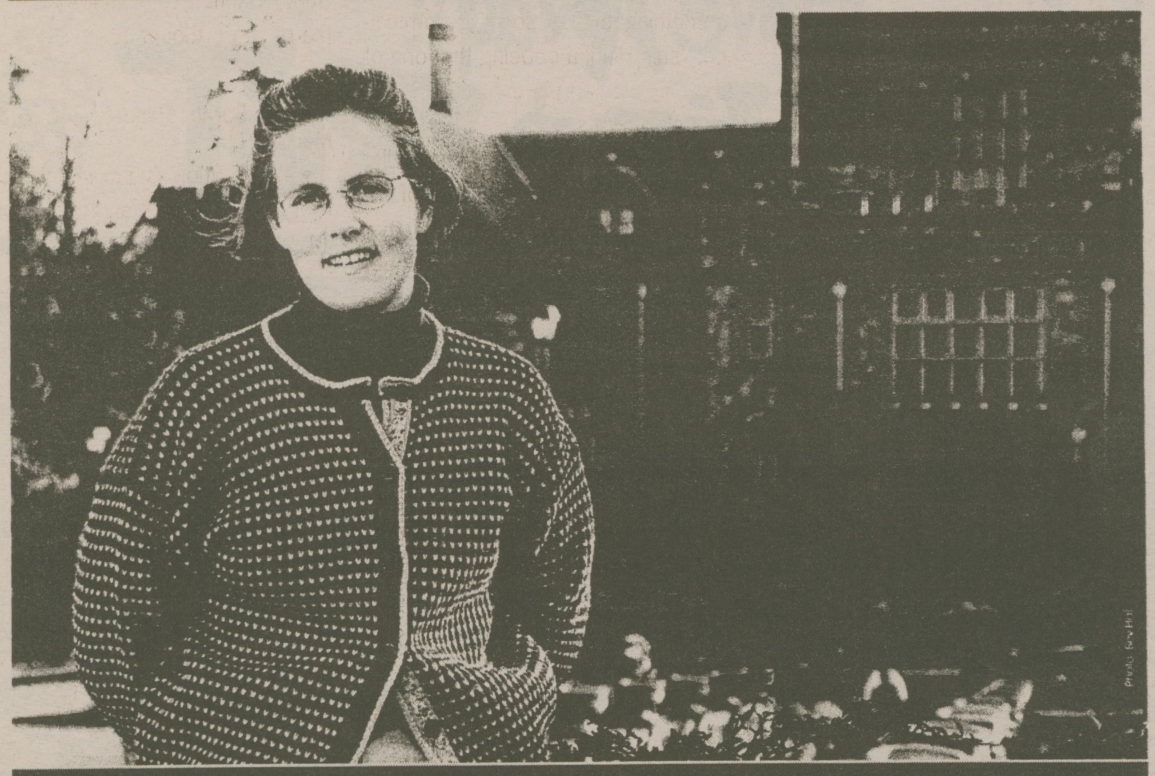

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ROYAL ROADS UNIVERSITY

Spin mistresses conquer gender

BY MIRANDA POST

Its very rare that interviews with musicians can read like the poem "Everything I Need to Know About Life I Learned in Kindergarten." Smiling, sharing, dancing, laughing and believing in your passions are all themes we remember from the poem we read at some point in our school careers. These are four concepts that djs Emotion, Sarah Hannah and Jill keep in mind while the making and mix music.

While names like the Chemical Brothers, Mark Farina and Paul Okenfeld headline everything from newspapers to warehouse raves to summer festivals, women are hard to find in the former underground musical escapade called electronica.

In the male-dominated musical genres like house, trance and hard house, female djs must prove themselves before the novelty of gender wears off.

Though they all became turntablists by different means, all three women keep their heads on their sleeve and their hearts in their music to prove themselves.

Sarah Bedard, a twenty-three-year-old turntablist, aka dj Sarah Hannah, said her turntablist career started as a hobby after years of raving.

"I've been going to parties for seven years. I was at a party one day... and was just like 'oh my god I would just love to do this, it just looks like so much fun and I love dancing and I love music.' I just went out and bought mixers and turntables in one week," said the tech house dj. Bedard described tech house as "minimal and techy," with samples and voice overs but no "cheesy diva vocals," like other kinds of house.

Before dj Sarah Hannah started playing at clubs, she was able to develop her vision of the kind of gigs she likes to play by throwing parties and raves with fellow female beatmixer, Lori the Hi-fi Princess.

"I was at a party and had a revelation. I was looking around and it was all the guys throwing the parties to make money. It was all the guys playing the music. It was all the guys selling the really bad drugs. I wanted to put my positive energy into this," said Bedard, who is also the co-owner of Sacred Herb - The Hemp Shop.

Since her first set at a rave in the Walbran valley two years ago, she said she attempts to play, only positive energy venues. Last weekend she played a girl-organized, deep house party by Diva Productions called Lucid, something she calls "totally cool" because it paralleled the vibe she strived for at her parties.

"When Lori and I used to throw parties, we totally had a vision to not make money just to throw the party. It was really cool [playing Lucid] because they didn't pack a lot of people in just to make money...I was totally stoked to be playing for them because it's my whole vibe. Everybody was so wicked," said Bedard with a big smile.

Often girls ask her about spinning, this is something that dj Sarah Hannah loves sharing – her love for the trade and music.

"When Lori and I first first started playing it was really frustrating because there were no other girls playing out... I've had a lot of girls come up to me and say that they want to get into djing," said the London, Ontario born dj who moved to Victoria five years ago.

Dj Sarah-Hannah said she finds her male peers pretty supportive as well. "I've been friends with a lot of these guys for a long time so I am like an equal... I'll go out skateboarding or go play Rush with them."

But what happens when everybody isn't so wicked? Jill Adams or dj Jill, a local trance dj, said her audiences "swing between the extremes" of telling her she's "amazing" or referring to her as "just another dumb girl behind the decks."

She said a 16-year-old guy approached her after a set and said, "'Wow you're actually pretty good [for a girl].' Yet another time, during a set at Liquid, a bouncer had to ward off people from asking her questions while she mixed.

"Sometimes there's a lot of hostility towards female djs. The whole scene is pretty competitive... Everyone's concerned about who's getting the gigs, who's playing the new styles and who's getting the new records," she said.

Dj Jill's musicality helps her play a number of electronica sub-types like drum and bass, breakbeats and house. She can play eight different instruments, including the piano, trumpet, handbells and the alto recorder.

When her parents sold her guitar without her permission, she began to crave some kind of musical instrument. Luckily, she says, her boyfriend had all the equipment so it was easy for her to start mixing.

Jill said through out the course of her 25-plus raves – venues she prefers to clubs – female fans tend to be more encouraging than males.

After getting discouraged with the crystal meth/speed use and lack of musical appreciation at the drum and bass parties she was playing, Adams decided to start spinning for trance. Sandra Collins, a San Francisco dj, inspired her to begin to mixing trance.

"I saw her play at the Limit and loved her style and music," she said. But when asked about her favourite performance ever, dj Jill recalled a house set she played at a small party in Cadboro Bay.

"I had a bunch of cool records set up and the tables were on a hardwood floor," said Jill. When the party got going, the records were skipping every four to five seconds because everyone was dancing.

"It was really hard to match beats but it was really exciting too because it was such a challenge. People were into it because they realized that I was pulling it off despite the skipping," dj Jill said.

Timing is key when mixing trance, said Adams. Trance consists of continuous, looped beats layered over basslines and instrumental or vocal samples.

"I don't want my music to be emotional in a cheesy way- it's the rolling basslines that just fill you right up," said the UVic student/photographer/dj.

The mixing and split-second decisions combined with crowd ethos that Jill experienced in Caddy Bay are what Calgary-based dj Emotion said she feeds on.

Twenty-year-old dj Emotion, aka Brianne Hleucka, has djed for a year-and-a-half and is now traveling all over North America playing UK hard house style. Emotion's success recipe is simple: add two parts clean, hard beats, one part dj-crowd interaction, one part confidence and three parts feeling.

She says she calls herself Emotion because it best describes her personality.

"I'm emotional in all ways... if I'm happy I'll be really happy, if I'm sad I'll be overly sad. I think my name suits me perfectly, I'll never change it."

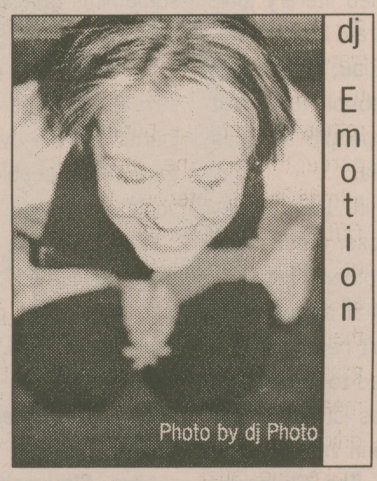
Behind the decks she is calm, collected but always psyched to be playing her music. In person she is emphatic, laughs and says the word love a lot.

"I'm always a part of the crowd... I love [my music]. I love connecting with the crowd that's what gives me my confidence," she said.

Emotion's first set in front of a sizable crowd came at a Vinyl Syndicate jungle party, after she'd been mixing for five months.

Because Calgary is such a mainstream-house city, Emotion travels to Edmonton a lot, because they "like their hard stuff."

"UK Hard house has a lot of sam-



ples and lots of old school sounds, like in the days of Prodigy and all of them," she said.

The hard house fan base is developing in Calgary, though, and Emotion said that she's glad that she's a part of that.

"I sort of started the hard house scene in Alberta, I was one of the first people to play this kind of music, and now a lot of other people are buying it," said Emotion, who was born in the small Alberta town of Vauxhaul.

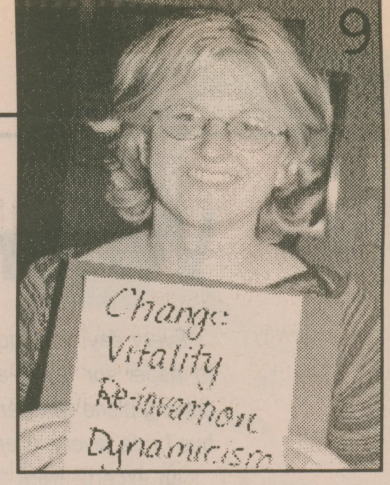
Like a lot of female djs, Emotion is usually one of the only female names on rave rosters.

"I am actually quite proud of doing something that is so male-dominated," said Hleuka of being the one of the only woman playing out at raves and club nights.

Unlike a lot of other female djs, Emotion has played a couple of all-girl parties. Last year at Ladybuggin, a Nexus Tribe party, she got to meet UK legend Anne Savage.

After the party, Savage gave Emotion a dub plate and an invitation to fulfill her dream of playing in the UK at Savage's club night in London.

Respect like this is important to



Emotion who said while she appreciates the praise she gets from male djs, it's female opinion that matters.

"Sometimes I have problems with guys [djs] who have that ego problem where a girl can do it good and they get jealous...They can actually be quite rude," she said.

And like Sarah-Hannah and Jill, Emotion is equally ethusiastic about more girl djs getting recognition.

"I would love to meet more female djs," she said.

So while these three women in music are causing the rugs to shred live, they are all working on cds and producing. Dj Sarah Hannah and Emotion are both looking at the production side of their music while dj Jill is looking at incorporating other mediums of expression with her djing.

"I don't see djing as a complete career. I'm also an artist so I wouldn't mind doing projects that incorporate my painting and sculptures," said Adams.

Dj Sarah Hannah sees evolution of female djs coming into their own as something that should come naturally, where gender won't be an issue.

"What I really want is to get to the time where it's not an 'all girl party,' it just so happens that everyone playing are girls, like it is with guys [playing]. It shouldn't matter whether I'm male or female. If you can appreciate my music that's the point you know... So I'd really like to see all girl nights or all girl parties where people aren't going just because it's all female. That they are going because they like the djs and the music," dj Sarah Hannah said, "It'll take a couple of years though."

- Dj Sarah Hannah at Hugo's March 21.
- Dj Emotion is playing Down at Fraggle Rock in Vancouver March 11.
- Dj Jill is finishing off Sub-Atomic (Victoria) this Saturday.

Writing poetry is Lori Acker's own ritual

"Every day, I cannot bear to put pen to paper for you,/ and so instead, a curving plane of letters/ encircles every bus I ride, every street I walk down."

- an excerpt from "Letter to Celeste, Fall 1997" published in *Hammer & Tongs*.

Lori Maleea Acker tackles land, ocean, traveling, and work in both her writing and her daily life. She is also part of an anthology by Smoking Lung Press called *Hammer and Tongs* , distributed by Arsenal Pulp Press.

Smoking Lung began three years ago publishing chapbooks for young, talented writers who were tired of getting nowhere with established literary journals. Started by Brad Cran, Shane Book and Barclay Brick Blair, the Lung launched its first chapbook to a sold out audience of 300 people at Open Space Gallery in Victoria.

Since that launch in 1997, they haven't looked back. Acker predicts the Lung will become another press for people just starting out all around B.C.

The writing world isn't new to Acker. She was first introduced to poetry in a grade 12 writing class at Claremont Senior Secondary here in Victoria.

"The starting up of *The Claremont Review* was what got me started and made me think [being published] was actually possible. It didn't have to be done in Toronto, which is really nice," says Acker.

She says her high school writing experience was crucial in developing as a poet. "The earlier people get started, the more confidence they have in their own voice and their ability to say something that matters...Claremont was amazing. English could be something other than just the classics, other than Shakespeare, other than people who'd been dead for 200 years. Bill Stenson and Terrence Young [instructors in 1993] really made it current."

Stenson and Young regularly brought local poets like Patrick Lane and Terrence's wife Patricia Young into the classroom, which made poetry into something that was happening "right now."

"I felt like I was part of that process," says Acker. "*The Claremont Review* [a journal started by Young and Stenson] gave young people a place to use their voices, that wasn't there before."

Following *The Claremont Review*, Acker designed a chapbook entitled *Her Own Rituals*, published by Smoking Lung Press in 1997. She has since been published in the Canadian literary journal *The Fiddlehead*, and *Geist* magazine.

After Claremont, Acker completed her Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Writing here at the university. Now she works at UVic's Macpherson Library.

"So far, it's the closest place that I can get to books, in terms of a job. I'm trying not to sacrifice in terms of being a waitress or going back to working in a bed and breakfast. It's really difficult to find work, and nearly impossible with a BFA," says Acker.

Lori Acker at home on land and sea.

provided by Lori Acker

This is a sacrifice Acker made willingly. "It's a degree for the sake of learning how to do your craft. It's not concerned with technical job creation."

Acker saw herself as a writer right from day one. "She's got sensitivity and a magical way with words," said Stenson. Not only a strong writer, Acker possesses individuality. As far back as high school, she was "always willing to make her own path without making people aware that she was doing it," he added.

Acker describes her writing as carrying the world's sadness inside of herself. "It's almost like a messianic trait," she says. "Inside that sadness is the joy of the world as well. I think that ends up coming out a lot."

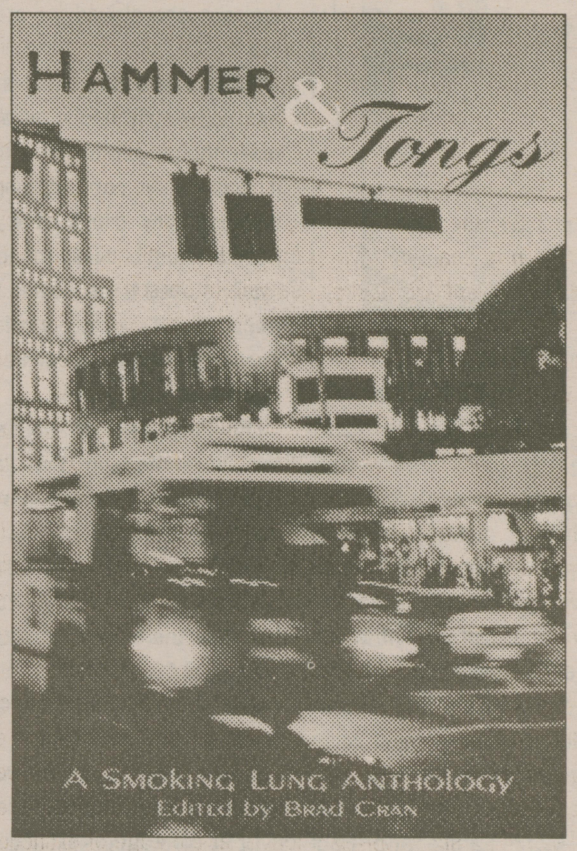
She explains that writing gives a voice to something that is speaking inside, it's a necessity, it keeps her balanced. "If I don't write those things out then the voices get too loud and I can't hear my own," she says.

Writing is not about platforming her own political issues onto society. For Acker, the individual goes beyond the political and becomes universal. "I want to speak to any person anywhere. I think that base things in human nature are things that can be understood by anyone."

While poetry brings words to the page, Acker uses her body to express creativity through dance. "[Dancing with Linda Raino] really keeps me sane... I have to be able to turn my mind off. It's such a meditative thing to do," says Acker.

""It's a time to heal herself and to flesh out issues without consciously thinking about them," she adds. "With writing, you have to deal with it as it comes, but with dancing, it's less cerebral and more physical," she says.

"It's the same with water. It's in my poetry and fiction a lot. I write about people who are lost on the water and find themselves in the water."

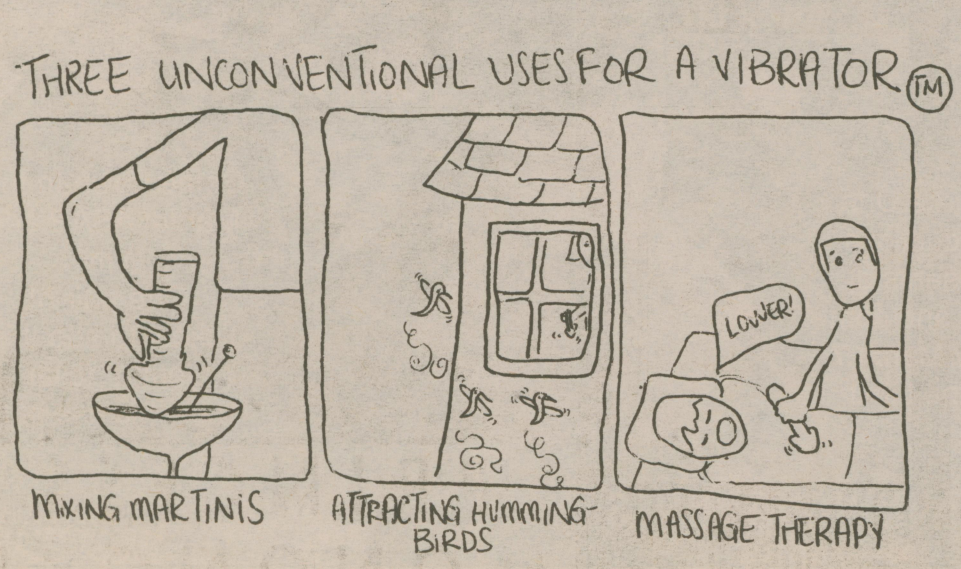


The poem, "Her Own Ritual" is a powerful poem about a woman who rows her dead father out onto the ocean, sets him and the dingy on fire and watches as he is sent to Valhalla. It is about honouring family and traditions.

Her connection to the water evolved out of summers spent sailing in and around Southern Vancouver Island. "I feel like I have both the earth and water in me. My mom's very much garden oriented and my dad is very much of the sea."

Following in her mother's footsteps, Acker has spent the past two summers landscaping the backyard of her home. "[I] built it up with raised beds... we had huge vegetables, Dahlias and Sunflowers everywhere... I loved doing that." Gardens are another theme cultivated in Acker's poetry.

"When you hear her read, you're left feeling there's not one word you'd have changed," says Stenson. To catch the power of Acker's poetry, the *Hammer and Tongs* attend the Victoria book launch Sat., March 4 at Herman's Jazz Club. Arrive early because the show begins at 8 p.m. sharp and features poets Brad Cran, Carla Funk, Chris Hutchinson, Ryan Knighton, Billeh Nickerson and Karen Solie.



Rachel Carson: woman who broke the silence

BY SARA KIRK

"There was once a town in the heart of America where all life seemed to live in harmony with its surroundings...Then a strange blight crept over the area and everything began to change...mysterious maladies swept the flocks of chickens, the cattle and sheep sickened and died...There was a strange stillness. The birds, for example – where had they gone?... The few birds seen anywhere were moribund; they trembled violently and could not fly. It was a spring without voices....only silence lay over the fields and woods and marsh...No witchcraft, no enemy action had silenced the rebirth of new life in this stricken world. The people had done it themselves."

And so begins Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*.

Published in 1962, *Silent Spring* is seen by many as the beginning of the modern environmental movement.

"Without this book, the environmental movement might... never have developed at all," said Al Gore, in an introduction to a recent edition of the book.

Written to raise awareness about the growing, invisible dangers of DDT and other pesticides and chemicals, *Silent Spring*, nearly 40 years later, is still regarded as the cornerstone of new environmentalism.

Who was the force behind this book at the helm of social change? And who was Rachel Carson? Carson was not a born crusader. Although shy and diffident, she was a dedicated, intelligent and determined woman who rose to the occasion.

"The beauty of the living world ! was trying to save has always been uppermost in my mind – that, and anger at the senseless, brutish things that were being done. I have felt bound by a solemn obligation to do what I could – if I didn't at least try, I could never again be happy in nature," said Carson in an interview before her death with *Time Magazine* and CBS News.

However, Carson faced many opponents to her efforts to raise public awareness about the effects of pesticides on the environment. She was writing against the orthodox that man was the centre and the master of all things, maintaining instead that the balance of nature is a major force in the survival of humankind.

Much of the criticism directed at Carson played on stereotypes of her sex – reviewers called her a "hysterical" woman using "emotion fanning" words, who was "unqualified to write such a book."

In fact, Carson had a master's degree in zoology and had worked for the US Bureau of Fisheries and Wildlife for 16 years before retiring to write full time.

Yet counterattacks were organized by the entire chemical industry (including Monsanto) and supported by the Agricultural Department, the American Medical Association and even the more cautious media. However, by the end of 1962, all but the most self-serving of Carson's attackers were retreating, as *Silent Spring* was achieving enormous popularity and broad public support.

Although damage from poisonous chemicals today is far worse than it was when Carson wrote *Silent Spring*, how much more impoverished might our environment have been without Carson's efforts?

Today, because Carson's work led to the ban on DDT, some of the species about which she was especially concerned (such as eagles and peregrine falcons) are no longer at the edge of extinction.

Sadly, such a ban did not come soon enough to help prevent Carson's death. While writing *Silent Spring* she endured a radical mastectomy, and then radiant treatment.

Two years after the book's publication she died of breast cancer, which research has since strongly linked to exposure to toxic chemicals. Yet *Silent Spring* lives on, without question one of the landmark books of the 20th century, written by one of the most conscientious women of the time.

A quick feminism recap

BY SUTTON EAVES

The Women's Rights Movement began in 1848 with five average white, middle-class housewives who felt passionate about fighting discrimination and the oppression of women.

What was an afternoon gathering of five friends for tea resulted in a plan to convene the world's first Women's Rights Convention in New York.

The women decided on advertising the convention in a local newspaper, *the Seneca County Courier*. Although the convention's turnout was not large, a Declaration of Sentiments was drafted listing exactly eighteen hardships that American women suffered.

The declaration addressed grievances like women not being allowed to vote, married women not having property rights, women's inability to enter professions like medicine or law, women lacking legal power over themselves once they were married, and being denied opportunities to higher education.

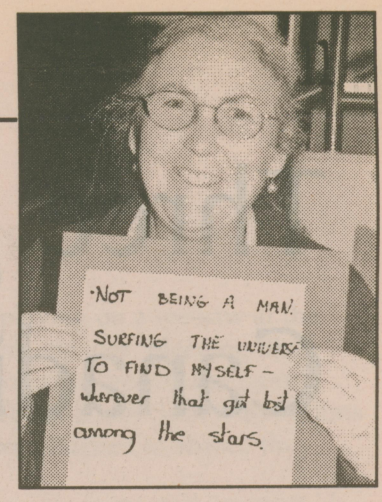
This convention was the first of its kind, but from 1850 until the start of the civil war, women's rights conventions were held regularly throughout the USA. The hottest topic of debate was female suffrage – a woman's right to vote. In 1920 the vote was finally won for white, middle-class women. Interest groups were formed to ensure women's rights to vote were protected, as well as their right to safe working conditions.

In 1923 the leader of the National Woman's Party, Alice Paul, drafted an Equal Rights Amendment for the constitution. However, it took almost 50 years for Congress to send it to the senate for ratification, and when the vote was actually taken in 1982, the amendment was three states short of the 38 needed to be written into the constitution.

This is not to say that in those fifty years, laws were not established that furthered the Women's Rights Movement. Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act was passed, which prohibited employment discrimination on the basis of sex as well as religion, national origin, and race.

The movement also led the establishment of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. In 1972, Title IX in the Education Codes was created, giving equal access to education programs for men and women. This code also allowed more women to become involved in athletics — one in twenty-seven high school girls played sports 25 years ago, one in three do today.

In Canada, women were working just as hard for their rights. The Women's Literary League was formed in 1886, and devoted itself to the suffrage movement. The right to vote was won in Ontario first, on April 12, 1917. As of April 1919, women were also allowed to run for provincial office. Only two years later Agnes Macphail became a member of the House of Commons. She triumphed again in 1944 when she became the first female Member of Provincial Parliament.

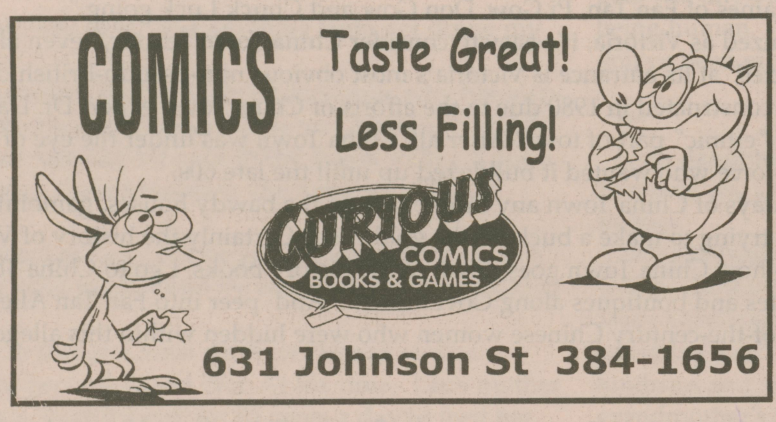


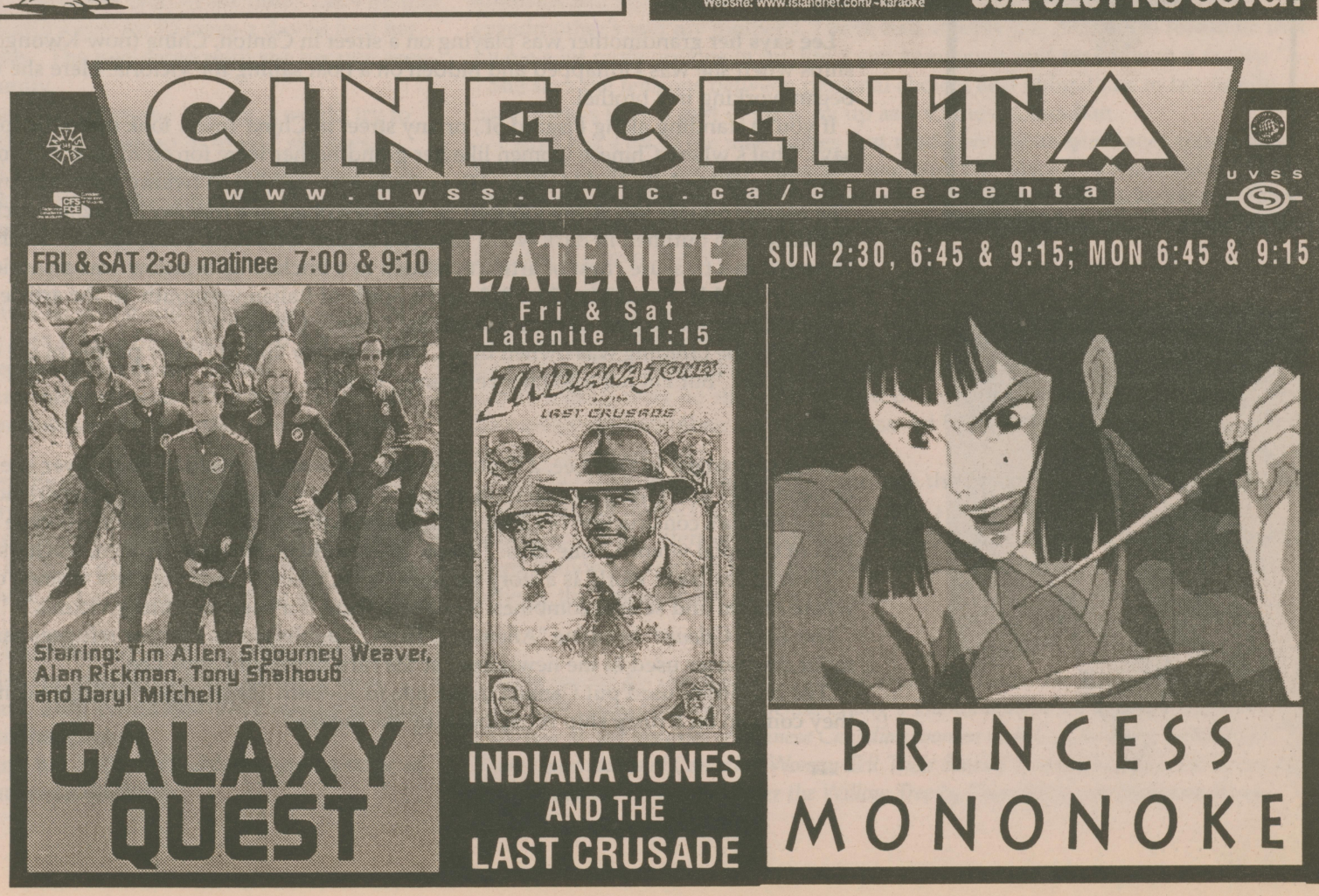
The 1960s marked the second wave of feminist activism, and although it addressed some of the issues identified at the beginning of the century, a new issue was unveiled.

This was the women's labour movement, which was aimed at ending discrimination against women in the workforce. It focused on issues like equal pay and benefits for men and women, as well as child care for working mothers.

Many grassroots projects in communities throughout North America in the 60s and 70s established things we take for granted today, such as women's shelters and health clinics, abortion services, child care centres, and rape crisis hotlines.

Today, women continue to work for change. We are still fighting for reproductive rights, leadership roles in religious worship, social security benefits, enrollment in military academics, and better laws against sexual harassment.





Three generations of Chinese Canadian women tell their stories

by Gillian Jerome

The cherry tree is in blossom at Trudy Lee's white stucco split-level on Princess St., blocks away from where her mother shopped at the old Chinese Market in Fernwood. Pink camellia petals are just beginning to poke out from the manicured bush at her doorstep.

She shakes my hand, and leads me into the kitchen for a mug of green tea to warm myself up.

Ever since retiring from a 26-year career with the city school board, where she worked as a translator, a teacher's assistant and a librarian, Lee says she hates being stuck inside.

We move into the spare bedroom where one of her three kids used to sleep. Her son and two daughters have all graduated from university, and left home to live and work in Langley, Canmore and Japan. A pink clock with cartoons on the face is the only reminder of the kids.

Otherwise, the house is filled with pieces of the past. A traditional Chinese silk embroidery hangs on the wall. On the night table beside the guest bed sits an old Underwood typewriter. Lee offers me a chair at the card table where she has arranged papers for her family's taxes into neat piles. A glass of pens and a blank pad of paper awaits me.

I'm here to ask for stories about what it was like to grow up female in Victoria's Chinese community. Finding a Chinese woman's voice in local history books takes some digging, especially in a city whose history is as racist as Victoria's. The history of the Chinese in this city dates back to the late 1850s when Chinatown developed quickly on land north of Johnson St. Chinese men who survived building the railroads moved to Victoria after their CPR contracts ended and they hadn't earned enough to get back to China.

But Canada, and Victoria in particular, has never been an entirely comfortable home for Chinese immigrants or residents. It was in our legislature, after all, when in 1872 John Robson first proposed that every person coming in from China be taxed $50 a head, upped to $500 in1903. In fact, the first anti-Chinese society was founded in 1874 right here in our friendly capital. The old pip-pip British boys' resistance to Chinese immigration was made redundant by the federal Chinese Exclusion Act, barring all immigration from China from 1923 to 1947. And Chinese men had to pressure the government to be allowed to fight for their country in World War Two which finally led to the right to vote in 1947, the same year the Exclusion Act was repealed.

The list of examples of institutionalized racism against the Chinese is endless. Facts and figures pop out at me and I'm surprised, of course, considering myself an open-minded, educated white girl who shops for cheap produce in China Town and rents the occasional Chinese film.

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In ***Victoria the Way it Was***, local historian Michael Kluckner writes that "part of the lure of China town was fantasy – the credulous minds of unsophisticated whites speculating about exotic, Oriental mystery in the midst of prudish Victoria. Another, for the police, was to shut down the gambling joints, especially in the anti-vice 1910s and 1920s. The result was incredibly elaborate security precautions – men with hats pulled over their eyes in doorways and at the entrances of alleyways, secret door-locks, and a rabbit-warren of staircases, alleyways and rooftops – all to keep the [gambling] games of Fan Tan, Pi Gow, Don Gow and Chuck Luck going."

In a city as homogenized as Victoria, it's easy to consider China Town "exotic," even alluring. After all, the great red and gold gate erected at its entrance is Victoria's most obvious non-pseudo-British design. The gate at Fisgard and Government was constructed in 1980 due to the efforts of China Town expert Dr. David Lai. It symbolizes the city's resistance to the "ethnic" part of town. After all, China Town was under the eye of our city's reknowned "urban renewal" task force who wanted it bulldozed up until the late 60s.

But were the shady days of China Town any different from the bawdy houses, gambling dens and pubs run by European immigrants trying to make a buck off the gold rush? Certainly the history of Victoria's crime has no specific ethnicity. Yet this, is how China Town goes down in the history books. I go to China Town for respite from the yuppified streak of cafes and boutiques along Government. And peer into Fan Tan Alley's narrow passage looking for the ghosts of turn-of-the-century Chinese women who were hidden within this alleged labyrinth of sin.

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Lee says her grandmother was playing on a street in Canton, China (now Kwongdong) beside a port for merchant ships when she was kidnapped and hidden on a boat sailing for Victoria. Here she was sold to a Chinese man and began working in a brothel.

If you're standing along Fisgard St., or any street in China Town, look up to the top floors of the tenements, she says. That's where Chinese women like her grandmother were forced to take customers.

An alleged bordello in that neck of the woods was discovered twenty years ago by local architect Nicholas Bawlf. The Market Square loft at 560 Johnson St. was described in a *Monday Magazine* article as a room with "10 partitioned cubicles, each outlined in dark wood trim and coated with dust. Some are not much bigger than a broom closet." Included in a treasure chest of artifacts hidden in a bricked up window was an antique wooden dildo, a 16-page labour pamphlet dated May 21, 1912, and a bottle of Italian vermouth. In the article, Dr. David Lai tours the loft and points out escape routes – a common feature in early Chinatown.

Lai says the building was owned by a Chinese family and the older people in the Chinese community remember it as a brothel, "but I'm not a 100 per cent sure," he adds.

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UVic sociologist Joanne Lee, a Chinese Canadian woman raised in Vancouver, sees the danger in telling the stories of one family and trying to spin it off as the "Chinese Canadian Woman's Experience."

"The media's construction of Chinese Canadian women reconfirms the stereotype of the hyper sexualized construction of Oriental women," she says. "We are also mothers, business women, teachers..."

"[Forced sex trade work] is a story we know well, when in fact, very few women came via that mode...This is where racism and sexism combines. Somehow there is a need to portray victims."

The *Times Colonist* headline "Aliens, Go Home," published as Chinese refugees came to Victoria last August reflects racist discourses used in the newspaper at the turn of century, says Lee.

"The narratives used put Canada in the role of saviour. Thousands of refugees come each year, but the fact that they come in on a rusty ship is exploded by the media."

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After having three kids, Lee's grandmother took her two boys back to China where they married Chinese women, leaving Lee's mother in Victoria. Her first aunt committed suicide in China by starving herself once she heard wind of her new husband's desire to marry another woman in Vancouver. (Taking a second wife was common at that time.) Disillusioned at the future awaiting her baby girl, Lee's second aunt tried to stuff her daughter in an oven. After living what Lee calls a "very hard life," her grandmother died of illness derived from diabetes at 45-years-old.

In an interview for a book called *Changing Landscapes, Three Generations of Canadian Women Tell Their Stories*, Lee's mother, Kwei-yun (Precious Cloud), describes what her life was like growing up in Victoria.

"I was married [to an older man] while they [my mother and brothers] were in China. I had a baby boy in the early days of the depression. He died at six months – no food to feed him"

"Time passed, I was given a baby girl to raise because the mother had nine children so she gave away most of the girls." Two children, including Lee, soon followed.

Kwei-yun lived in a wooden shack beside what is now city hall with her husband who worked as a lumber jack.

"He worked in the forest all day long...not much money coming in...My husband died when my second son was three months old. There was no money to bury him. I went from door to door to collect money from people who could and were willing to help. Most couldn't help me because they didn't have extra money."

Her mother and her two brothers returned to Canada in 1938 alone because their wives weren't allowed into Canada. "The Canadians did not want the families to get together and have babies of Chinese origin," she said. "If the men insisted, they had to pay a head tax of $500 for their wives [before the Exclusion Act of 1923.]

"Because my English is limited, I stayed at home to take care of my mother. She passed away very young." Lee's mother died in December of 1996.

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I ask Lee about her childhood and she lifts the hem of her wool skirt, showing me scars left from cigarette burns she got from her "sadistic" stepfather after she broke curfew as a teenager.

"I've got bumps and scars all over," she says. "For anything from not doing my homework to eating too much."

A second generation Chinese Canadian, Lee says she understands why her stepfather was often drunk and violent. He came to Canada from China in the 1920s hoping for a bright, lucrative future panning for gold in the Fraser Valley, a popular dream symbolized by Gim Saan or Gold Mountain, the name the Chinese used for Canada.

Victoria was meant to be a pit stop, Lee says, but he got stuck trying to make a living off a potato and pea farm, a meat market and by washing dishes at a China Town restaurant.

Lee's mother met her step father in line at a meat shop on Fisgard St. in a bustling China Town just before the Second World War. At the time, Lee's mother was a young widow working at as a 'laundry girl' for 35 cents a day to feed her three kids, two of whom had tuberculosis. The two dated until she became pregnant and he took over as head of the family.

"Mom was scared of her second husband so when she was hit, I would try to get in between the two so I would get the blows instead of Mom," she says.

"Two decades of exclusion meant that many of the younger women coming to Canada married men who were twenty to thirty years older, thus there were many widows with children and remarrying was the means to survive."

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After being born and raised in Victoria, Lee says it still irritates her when she's mistaken for a foreigner because of her skin colour. She talks about a recent trip to The Empress Hotel for a private reception given by her dentist.

She and a friend sat at a table with three other couples. One of the men initiated introductions, asking where each guest was from, with the exception of the two women.

"'Well, we're nearly all Canadians then,' he said."

"I was so angry I was turning red," says Lee. "My fists were clenched. 'Hey what about me,' I said. My Mom was born next to city hall in a shack. I was a second generation, and my kids are third, and if I have grandchildren, they'll be fourth."

She says the man then turned to his wife and asked her to get up and leave with him.

"It was the first time in my life I ever burst out like that. I surprised myself."

Lee talks quite candidly about the roles she learned as a girl growing up in Chinese Canadian culture. "Right up until after World War Two, women walked three steps behind their husbands. It still happens."

When it came to learning about sex and her body, Lee says it wasn't a topic of conversation in her family. "That's what books were for."

Lee remembers when she and a girl friend were playing on a see-saw at the park beside Crystal Pool. She went home to discover she was "bleeding like crazy" and told her mother she had "bumped down to the ground too hard."

Her mother didn't say a word, says Lee. She made her a loin cloth with buttons to attach to her underwear with a piece of rice paper attached to absorb the blood.

School didn't offer an opportunity to ask many questions. For Lee, those days offered a chilly, segregated climate. She remembers moments of her school days as blatantly racist. In the 1940s, Lee went to North Ward elementary school, on the land where the *Times Colonist* sits. She says she remembers staying behind with the other "ethnic groups" to do homework while all the white kids went to the pool. When she asked why she didn't get to go, she was told her skin would turn the water yellow.

Throughout high school, Lee spent her evenings learning Chinese and working in the laundry shop on Saturdays, or babysitting, or house cleaning. She also worked for local frozen food companies picking peas and berries on farms along what is now Feltham Road.

"It was a harsh world out there, for us anyway, but it made us stronger," she says.

As for young women today, she says she has mixed feelings. On one hand, she says she's happy to have been able to give a softer life to her kids. "But something is lost. They take things for granted."

When asked what advice she would give younger women, she says, "Complete your studies. Go as far as you can. Date at 29 and marry at 30. See as much as possible, by trains, camels or planes. Just go, even if you have to borrow money. Once you're married, you're stuck, your house and your husband becomes your whole world."

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Eugenie Lam agrees with Joanne Lee about the dangers of telling a story about three Chinese women. "The story of identity is a lot more complex and rich than we see in the media. It happens on a moment to moment basis."

A first generation Chinese Canadian, Lam wrote her Master's thesis in education on how Chinese Canadian women perceive themselves in relation to how they are represented in society.

She started the project after finding a scarce amount of academic writing in psychology and education about Asian North American women. "I realized we were invisible. We weren't there. So I began to ask myself what it means if you don't see yourself reflected in a complex way?"

What Lam says she discovered as a researcher was that she was in fact imposing an identity upon the five women she interviewed by asking each of them to respond as a Chinese Canadian woman.

Although she said her experience made her see race more politically, she resists suggesting that race determines identity.

"You can't parcel out anything that way, race, class or gender. I don't think it gets you anywhere. The whole of all those parts contribute to the experience of being human. I don't see identity as a fixed thing. I don't see it as something you've been given. It's something you negotiate on a day to day basis."

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Lee's daughter Michelle, now 40, lives and works in Japan. In Changing Perspectives, she reflects on her relationships with her mother and her grandmother.

"My maternal grandmother took care of me and my brothers when we were young...Whenever I had an argument with my parents and threatened to run away from home, I would run to my grandmother's place where I would seek consoling and a delicious home-cooked meal...I admire my grandmother for her kindness and my mother for her inner strength. Compared with life with my grandmother's and my mother's, I have had an easy life. Also I feel fortunate that I have a lot more options in my life. I can have goals and make them a reality. "

She says the tensions between personal choices and obligations to her family have always been a part of growing up as a Chinese Canadian.

"I have lost a lot of the insecurities that made my life as a teenager miserable. I feel that I'm just an average Canadian woman...The place and community where I live has never pressured me to learn more about my cultural background...There is a part of me that wants to please my own parents, and a part of me that wants to make my own choices."

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The stories these women told aren't much different from those passed on to me by my own lineage of Irish Canadian women. Both my maternal and paternal grandmothers were no strangers to hard living. But my ancestors weren't treated as outright aliens in their own country, saved by their European proximity and the colour of their skin.

I was nervous about stereotyping through the process of writing this article. But I followed my instinct to bring these women's stories to the page nonetheless. Telling any story offers an opportunity to etch a stereotype into stone. But just as often it allows a voice to leave the body, to escape the page. And somewhere, I believe, the ghosts shake themselves free.

Other sources for stories about Chinese Canadian Women: The Excluded Wife by UVic's Dr. Yuen-Fong Woon; Denise Chong's The Concubine's Children ; Jing Gao, a collection of oral histories of Chinese Canadian women in B.C.; Changing Landscapes: Three Generations of Canadian Women Tell Their Stories is recently published by Second Story Press; the NFB film Under the Willow Tree by Dora Nipp and Margaret Wong.

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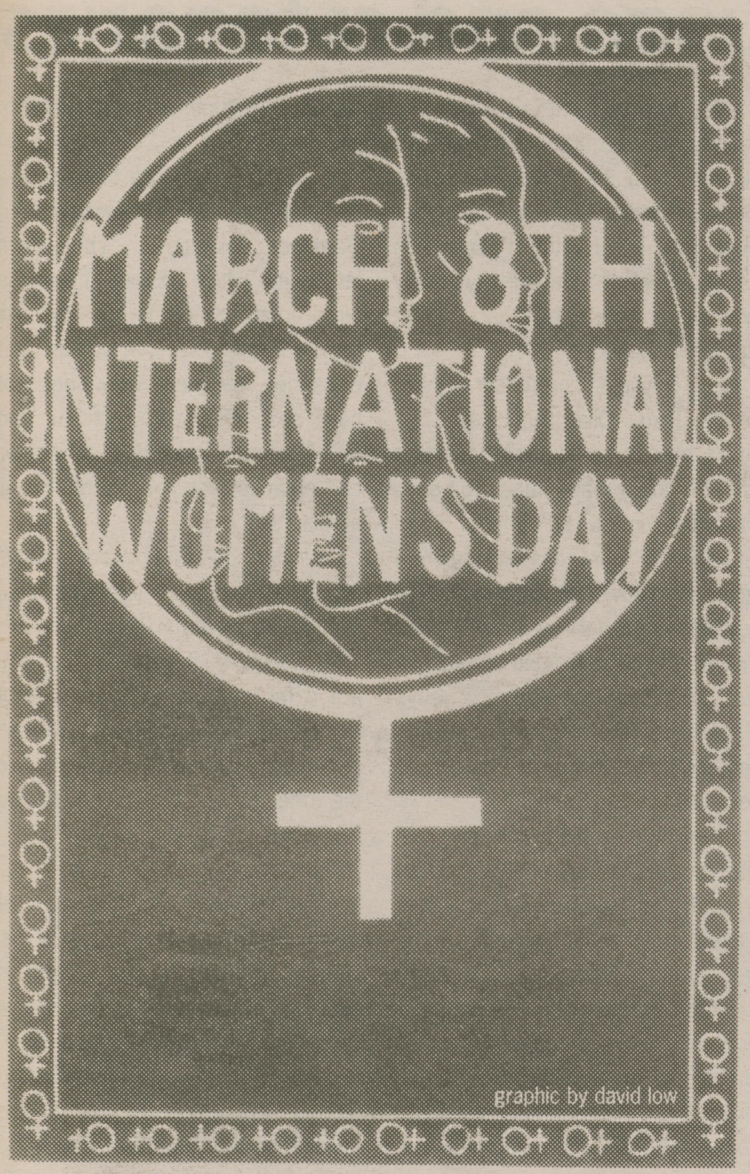


International Women's Day 2000

Rally at 11:30 a.m. @ Centennial Square

Rally at 12:30 p.m. @ Parliament Buildings

Join women from around the world in action:

International Wages for Houseworkers Campaign, Women Count Network, International Black Women for Wages for Housework

Media images unreal

BY MARGARET SPIERS

The body image of the "ideal" woman is everywhere in magazines, movies and television: a waif with no cellulite.

A majority of women try to match that "ideal" through diets and exercise even when they are physically healthy at their present weight.

"I can't think of one woman off the top of my head who hasn't felt [society's pressure to look a certain way]," says Denise Hodgins, co-ordinator of the B.C. Eating Disorder Association, a support group for women with body image issues. "Even more disturbing is the normalization of dieting, to not like your body, and to pick it apart [in conversation]."

She says it's considered normal for a woman to hate her thighs, fear bathing suit season and diet after Christmas. The difficulty lies in dismantling these ideas especially when society reinforces them in the media.

"It's important for a woman to connect with her body as it is and not [with] the vision in her head or one created by someone else. Someone else's idea of beauty is subjective, changeable and far different from what natural women look like. Appearance is one of our facets but is not the only part. We need to accept our physical appearance at this moment and celebrate all of the aspects that make us human," said Hodgins.

This painting by an anonymous artist was part of a show for Eating Disorders Awareness Week. martlet photo by Sarah Glen

The media doesn't represent a broad range of women. The average model is thinner than 95 per cent of the population, according to statistics compiled by MediaWatch, a non-profit organization that fights sexism in the media.

"Once we understand how much we buy into the media, then we understand how much our self-esteem is affected when it's linked to a socially acceptable physical appearance," says Merryl Bear, program co-ordinator of the National Eating Disorder Information Centre.

One solution to combat inadequate media representation is to write advertisers, editors and television producers and ask for representation of healthy bodies of all shapes and sizes, she says. One letter can be understood to represent between 50 to 100 readers or viewers.

"Actively engaging in the issue helps women feel they are taking control of their environment and the media can be reshaped by viewer and reader participation," says Bear. She says a broader representation of physical appearance in the media can affect the social environment.

"Women will begin to not believe such a narrow definition of what is acceptable and there will be fewer sanctions for men and women to comment on and discriminate on the basis of physical appearance."

Be prepared for violence against women

BY JULIET RICE

About a month ago, I was accosted by a man dressed as a farmer. He sang loudly to me. I walked a block away from him and he took a run at me. I knew he was running at me, even before I had it properly worked out. It was early evening and I was on a main road. I yelled and ran across the road and the 'farmer' didn't seem to notice. When he reached where I would have been standing, he began to scream and took off at a sprint for downtown.

A young man on a bicycle stopped and I told him what happened. "You're okay, sure you are," he said before riding away. But I didn't feel okay. What if it was late and the man was more on the ball, and continued to chase me?

Personal safety is a must for everybody. As Gavin de Becker, author of *The Gift of Fear* (Little Brown & Co, 1997) points out, our species is one of the few which doesn't implement an aggressive program for personal safety as soon as possible for our offspring. This is a shame when you consider how important human life is supposed to be.

I have taken the liberty of going on the Internet and finding some information on ways to keep safe. I would like to state here that I do not claim to have done a thorough search, nor will I advocate any particular form of personal safety training. I feel this is highly individual, and what works for one person may not work for another.

Some people feel comfortable using weapons, such as pepper spray or a stun gun. With pepper spray, it is recommended to buy canisters with a 'stream' rather than a mist or on a windy night one could unfortunately spray oneself. A stun gun requires actual contact with the aggressor. It delivers an electric shock between 50,000 and 250,000 volts directly into the body, causing loss of muscle control and balance. These weapons can be very effective, however remember weapons can be taken away and used against you. Some training in their uses would be beneficial.

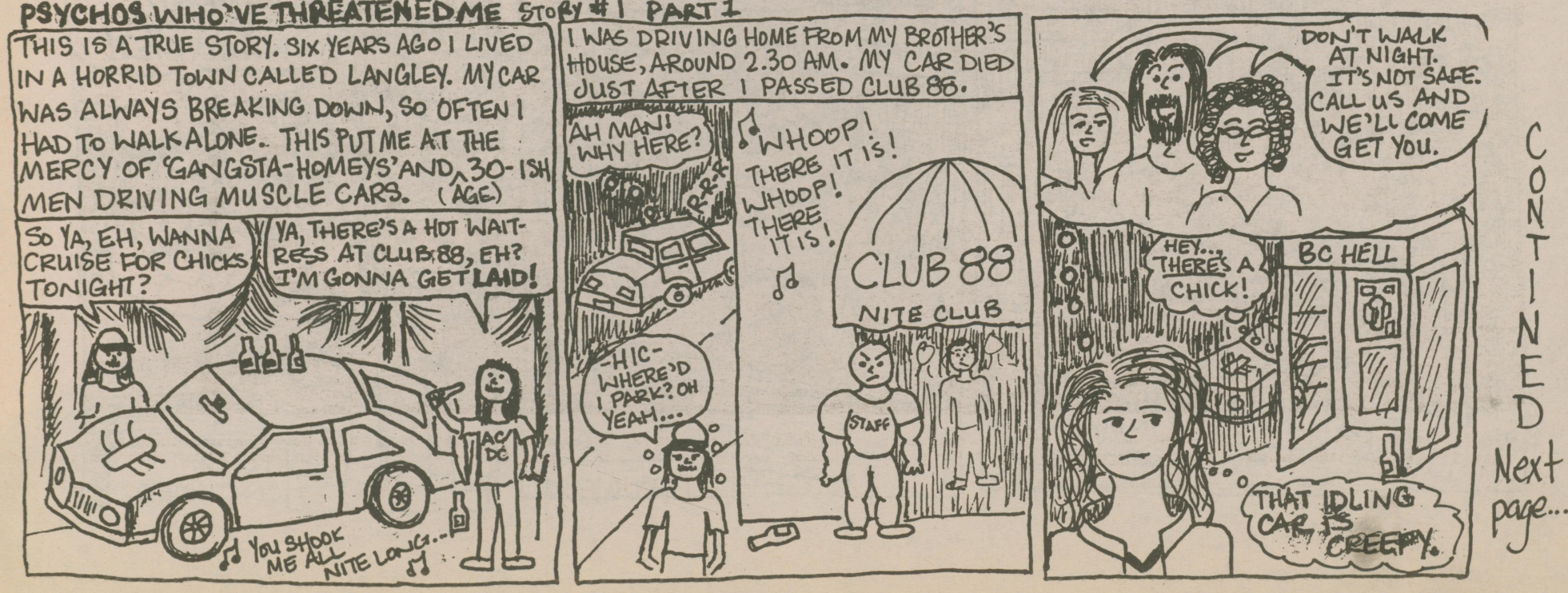
There are several self-defense class options. Some may opt for something like Wado-Kai karate, or Wing Chun. Others might be more interested in the Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D) offered by campus services. Think about what you hope to gain from taking a self defense class. Do you want to learn prevention strategies? How to fight back? How to use your voice powerfully? Gain self-confidence? Any combination of these? What about the instructor? Would you prefer a female or a male? Does it matter? With a little effort you can find the class that is right for you. Yes, there is cost involved. Something to consider: How much is your personal safety worth? Mine is worth quite a lot – more than boots from Aldo or four jugs of beer.

It is a good idea to read books on self defense. These are some titles I found and suggest checking out:

• The aforementioned *Gift of Fear*, the premise of which is intuition can alert you to certain dangers and thus you can take preventative measures.

•Another book worth checking out is *Her Wits About Her*, edited by Denise Caigon (Harper and Row, 1987), which is a collection of stories about women who have thwarted danger in unusual ways.

•*Self Defense Steps To Success* by Joan M. Nelson (Leisure Press, 1991) offers lessons on self protection.



'Woman' defies language and categories

By Petty Bozonelosve

TORONTO (CUP) – What is it to be a woman?

It gets kind of complicated when you try to answer this question but it's still a question worth asking and worth trying to answer.

Naomi Morgenstern, an English professor who specializes in gender studies at the University of Toronto (U of T), admits that questions of female identity have become increasingly complex in the past century.

"The whole idea of what it is to be a woman is complicated because it is not a singular category," she explains. "The political mobilization of women has changed the terminology. Previously, the white middle-class heterosexual woman was held as the ideal. Now, to think about women and identity also means to include race, class, ethnicity, and sexual orientation."

The discussion is complicated for Morgenstern because "woman," "female," and "feminine" are words often attached to cultural meanings and historical symbolism. In fact, we are "girled" and "boyed" as soon as we are spotted during an ultrasound and there are a host of presumptions and expectations placed on us once we make our grand entrance into the world.

"We are born into [a] language and culture that already has a set of meanings," she says. "Because your identity is pre-formed and constructed you cannot undo it so easily and hastily. Language and categories are [pre-set] and saturated with meaning."

Morgenstern believes that these pre-set categories can be confining.

"You can't choose to say feminine and mean something else that is separate from society's meaning," she says.

Sophie Bourgault, a French-Canadian graduate student at U of T, speaks of the enormous effect the Catholic Church has had on Quebec society, and on women in particular.

"I do have contempt toward the Catholic Church which of course is a sentiment left over from the Quiet Revolution," declares Bourgault, who grew up in a small town outside of Montreal. "The Church taught us the notion of 'être né(e) pour un petit pain' [being born for a little bread], meaning that there was no point in asking for much on earth, since we would only get our reward in heaven."

Bourgault believes that the Church used this teaching to control women's lives.

"Women's designated societal and religious role was to have many children in the name of 'la revanche des berceaux' [the revenge of the cradles]," she says.

'La revanche' is the Church's idea that high birth rates were needed to compensate for the English conquest of Quebec and to fight against the assimilation of Québécois culture.

The Quiet Revolution, the social and political transformation of the early '60s that challenged the dominance of the Church and the repression of the government, has left a legacy in Quebec society. Bourgault believes a major part of this legacy is a backlash against the values and beliefs of the Church that still exists today.

"There has been a massive transformation in Quebec demographics. Many people are going against the Church by using contraceptives and having far fewer children," she says. "Also, Quebec has the highest [percentage] of common law [relationships] in Canada, and if women do marry, their maiden names no longer change automatically. Today, legal measures need to be taken to change maiden names."

The entry of and inclusion of women into traditionally male careers has rapidly transformed the professional arena as well. Julian Tanner, a U of T sociology professor, says that the pharmacy profession has attracted many women largely due to its reasonable and predictable hours.

According to Tanner, a recent study found that women pharmacists reported that they were "far more satisfied" with income and promotional prospects than men.

Tanner describes pharmacy as a female-friendly profession, possibly because he notes that it is also a family-friendly profession.

"[Pharmacy] is a profession in which women can find a way of reconciling work and family," Tanner says. "Women are entering into the profession more readily than men, and I suspect that it will turn into an increasingly female profession."

Although there are more women entering into many previously male-dominated professions, this does not necessarily mean that women will find themselves in accommodating environments at all times. The term "revolving-door syndrome" refers to women who enter certain professions, such as law and medicine, enthusiastically but then exit disappointedly.

Denise Réaume, a U of T Law professor, argues that, in the law profession, this is because female lawyers are expected to fit a mould that has been pre-established by men.

"Law firms don't see the need to change their work practices in order to accommodate gender issues - many women wouldn't dare to mention to a senior partner that [they] want to have children in a couple of years," says Réaume. "Large firms are designed in ways that make it extremely difficult for women to climb to the top of the hierarchy and to have a family, unless they hire two full-time nannies."

But Réaume believes there are solutions.

"What needs to happen in law schools is a more systematic treatment than is currently provided," she states. "Law schools still produce lawyers who won't recognize gendered legal issues. In addition, lawyers are not acquainted with patterns of prejudicial treatment."

Sexual harassment in the law profession moved into the limelight recently with the firing of a senior partner in the New York law firm Tory, Tory, and Haythe. Despite this recent attention, Réaume says many women continue to face harassment in their workplaces.

David Rayside, a professor in the U of T's Sexual Diversity Studies program, credits the feminist movement with making a major impact on societal values in the last century.

"Although there has not been a great legislative and legal response regarding gender inequalities and violence against women, there has nonetheless been a response," says Rayside. "There has been an enormous shift in public policy due to the feminist movement."

However, over the years, feminism has received a fierce backlash from mainstream media and culture. Rayside says the "feminists" who do get media coverage are definitely selected and liked because they really don't have much to say except for the empty Spice Girl chant of "girl power." Feminists who do manage to rock the boat of the established cultural norm are perceived as neurotics, extremists, man-haters, or whiners.

Gillian Morton, co-ordinator of U of T's women's centre, affirms that the media is not feminist-friendly.

"The question is, who represents feminists?" Morton asks. "And why are those caricatures of feminism portrayed in media believed? The media depicts feminists as being opinionated, having little intelligence, having no sense of humour, and whining about their own victimization."

Accompanying this backlash is the popular cultural belief that feminism is archaic, that it belongs in the '60s and '70s, and it is unnecessary to get involved in such "passé" issues.

"The women's movement is not as strong as it used to be," concedes Morton. "People think we have achieved equality, but not really. They say 'sexism is over so why are you still whining?'"

Barbara Gaertner, an exchange student visiting U of T from Germany, comments on the similar negative attitudes toward feminism back home.

"It is still considered bad to be a feminist because it scares men," Gaertner explains. "The term 'emanze,' which comes from the word emancipation, is a derogatory term for feminist – a woman that does not like men, who does not have sex, who has short hair and never wears a skirt. The stereotypical emanze can be found in all media."

Gaertner adds that because of this negative stereotype, feminists must justify themselves at every turn.

"In Germany, if you say that you are a feminist, in order to prevent immediate accusation of being an emanze, you would need to reassure the other person that you are not a man-hater," she says.

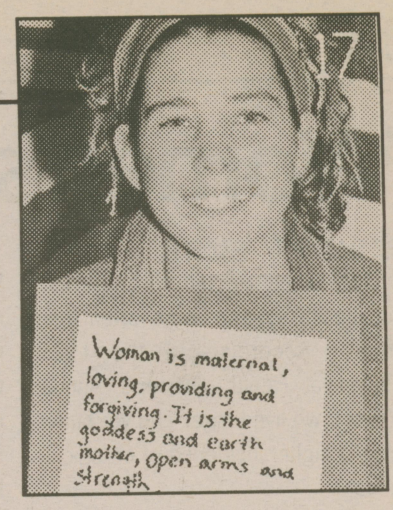
The debate around women, identity, and feminism show no signs of slowing down. The metaphysical discourse of the "female other" is enduring, says Gaertner, spurred on by both women and men. Irrespective of the much appreciated differences and dynamism of this philosophical debate, feminism also embodies a political activism with concrete goals.

Paddy Stamp, U of T's sexual harassment officer, says that she must put her personal beliefs aside when focusing on political goals.

"I need to work in alliance with other women and try to secure the changes I would like to see happen. For example, legislation on sexual assault does exist, but it is not consistently and fairly enforced," Stamp explains.

In addressing the division within the women's movement, Stamp warns that women must be cautious about advocating and pressing for exclusionary measures.

"Judgmentalism and moralism must be put aside for political strategizing. Prostitutes and pornography [industry] workers can also be feminists and can also be students. Feminism is a robust political force, it is diverse and divergent," Stamp says. "If I try to give a definition on what it is to be a woman, it would be a very different one from the women sitting next to me."



Tits, boobs and breasts: a cultural obsession

BY GILLIAN JEROME

The first one-dimensional breast I ever saw was on a coaster at the bar in my uncle's basement. It was a picture of a plump woman sprawled out on a garish chenille chair, the sort that belonged in Hugh Hefner's Playboy love palace. Underneath her image it read, "Thin is in, but fat is where it's at." I was ten years old with child breasts, holding my first piece of erotica in my hot little hands. I gazed around the room, eyeing the various bust lines of my aunts and grandmothers, seated together as they usually were at family gatherings, crosslegged on the couches talking and snacking amongst themselves. I stood there holding that coaster like a ref on the sidelines observing the bigs versus the smalls. Meanwhile, the men in my family sat at the bar watching the hockey game and cracking nuts. I could feel seams of my small world expanding. That day I left the comfortable, familiar domestic sphere of my mother and entered a highly political world.

Breasts carry enormous cultural baggage in North America. We are a bit tit-crazed so to speak. Since my childhood, I've watched this obsession from the portals of my pear-shaped body. Because I don't fit the Baywatch prototype, I've ridden the body image roller coaster, shifting from wanting to lead the cowboys bareback into the sunset to surfing the Web for herbal alternatives to silicone. And I'm not alone in the booby trap, but that's anything but comforting. Most women struggle with stepping outside the market-driven male gaze. They're either too big or too droopy or lopsided. And so we feed a billion-dollar industry by snatching up the latest boob cream or bustier.

By grade four I had already begun to experiment with boobs by standing in front of the bathroom mirror with my Mom's 36C and a box of Kleenex. I stuffed the cups underneath the red spandex body suit I wore to Saturday dance class and stood up on the toilet. I bent over to show some cleavage like the Farah Fawcett poster in my older brother's room, flexing my Kleenex mounds before the mirror. I squeezed my chest with my elbows and puckered my sultry lips, swiped with the candyfloss gloss I bought from the Avon lady. Owww! I was ready to hit Friday night roller disco at the St. Laurent arena. And how.

Not long after, Mom came home from work one day with a Sears bag. She sat me down at the kitchen table, and thinking I was due for socks or undies, I reached inside, non-plussed, and pulled out a white cotton garment. My eyes grew to saucers as I unfolded the trappings of a training bra. I was jubilant. Now I was in the races and there was no turning back. This was the beginning of my fleshy hills and the ensuing deep abyss into which I would lure my male harem of Teen Magazine pin-ups. John Stamos, Corey Haim, Nikki Six and even Luke Duke from The Dukes of Hazard could be drawn out from their glossy pages by my soon-to-be mountainous peaks.

I even had my dream bust singled out. I wanted one identical to Chrissy Snow on Three's Company. Janet was smart and Mrs. Roper was a real hoot but Chrissy bounced when she talked and my eyes followed the camera as it panned over to the helpless gaze on Jack's face, or Larry's, and even Mr. Roper fell prey. So I put my arms through the straps like a bikini top and Mom helped me do me up in the back. I hugged her as if she'd just given me a free ticket to Disney and darted out the front door with the tags still on, ready to play queen amongst the flatties of the neighbourhood court.

I even had my dream bust singled out. I wanted one identical to Chrissy Snow on Three's Company

If only our childhood eyes cold foresee crescendos. After a few days of boys pulling the back strap like a sling shot, my dreams of fame and fortune petered out. Besides, they weren't progressing as planned. I soon realized that my fertile mounds needed some fertilizer and Mother Nature was taking her sweet time to get around to my neck of the woods.

My plans for a dreamy bust and an ensuing male harem were all but shattered by the time I turned twelve. My older brother Paddy and I were doing the dishes after supper one evening. The bra was old news and growth was slow. Paddy was two years older and the female body was quickly becoming the object of his fascination. However, not just any female body. He was in love with Heather Locklear like every other head-banging guy at St. Matthew. He reached across into the sink for the frying pan and looked at my chest and then at me with the impish grin he's renowned for. This was my cue to what was coming and I was dismayed. This was the guy who had shown me his first arm pit hair one Friday night after our ritual of popcorn, Coca-Cola and The Dukes of Hazard. This was the guy who I built forts with, the guy who took me with him to catch crayfish in the creek. We played hockey together. I stole marbles out of the teacher's desk to fortify our playground empire. I was a faithful alibi when he was rightfully interrogated for planting shit bombs in the neighbours' mailboxes. For all intents and purposes, we were partners in crime. "I've seen bigger lumps in oatmeal," he said and cackled like a hyena at his own comic brilliance. I wasn't amused. My shoulders curled in.

Attempts wanting to fit the male gaze continued for years. I went through a phase of bust-enhancing exercises, determined to make muscle where the fat refused to stick. I looked at my mother's dougby bust and felt slighted by genetics. Although I was always involved in sports and active, I still wasn't satisfied. In the world of my ideals, I'd burned my bra years ago, yet I still owned a Miracle Bra with padded push-ups, not much different from my Kleenex contraption.

I've come to realize that my allure to breasts isn't Freudian or simple aesthetics, or a New Age journey back to the teat, it is my own egotistical struggle for power in the world. The same ego that gets in the way of loving and accepting my body as it is. This realization has filled that gaping hole, that place I thought I could fill if only I was bigger here or tighter there. Letting go of an ideal has allowed me a softer look at myself, a critical distance within our culture, and a greater appreciation for all sorts of beauty.

For a good summer time read pick up Marilyn Yalom's *The History of The Breast.*

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Women's health resources

BY TASHA MARSDEN

Our bodies are different. We use the health system more often than men. According to the 1995 Provincial Health Officer's Annual Report, we live longer and we suffer from a higher incidence of chronic illness.

In response, several programs have been developed throughout the province to address the individual health needs of women.

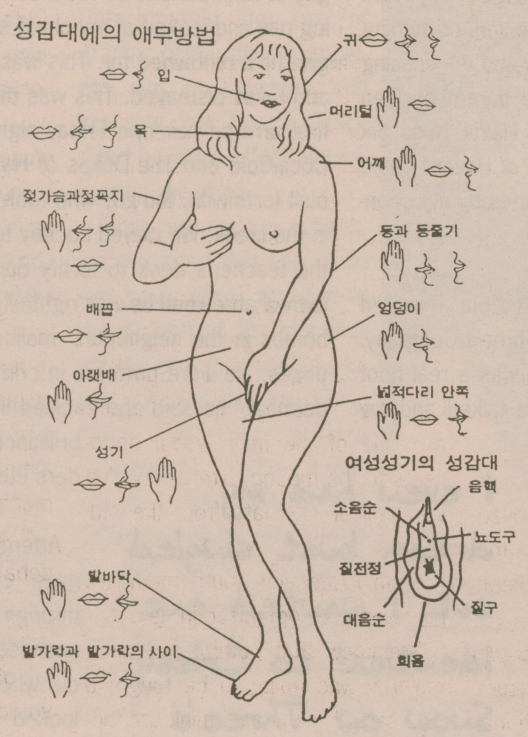
The Women's Health Bureau, a branch of the provincial Ministry of Health has planned several regional workshops to encourage consultation with women in B.C. communities this year.

"This gives women a chance to bring issues to health councils," said Anne Speer, the bureau's project co-ordinator. "It also promotes communication between the different parties that show up."

On March 4, the bureau will be hosting a conference in Vancouver on Aboriginal Women and Health. Eighty women from around the province will discuss health service delivery, harm reduction, violence and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.

Government ministries have benefited from applying a gender lens to their work in the health care industry. The bureau has also set up "Building Bridges," a local conference to develop innovative strategies that incorporate women's needs into healthcare, to happen in the end of April.

The B.C. Centre of Excellence for Women's Health has sponsored a research project to find out what experience women have had with the province's mental health system. Co-ordinators hope the project will influence the government's Mental Health Plan, the framework for program delivery over the next decade.



There are several local resources for women in Victoria to get practical advice on health issues.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons has a toll free service (1-800-461-3008) to refer people to doctor's who are accepting new clients. The University of Victoria's women's centre also has a listing of women-friendly doctors.

Several programs cater to the health needs of young mothers and their children. The YM-YWCA Young Mom's Support group (386-7511) gives women a chance to talk with other mothers about their experiences and difficulties.

The B.C. Eating Disorder Association (383-2755) is a confidential support service for those living with or affected by the issue.

Victoria has a few programs for female survivors of sexual assualt. On campus, the Open University Resource Sexual Assualt Centre (472-4388) offers support and referral services for other agencies in the area. The Victoria Women's Sexual Assualt Centre (383-5545) provides emotional support, advice on seeking justice as well as crisis assistance (Crisis line: 383-3232) to help women get out of dangerous situations.

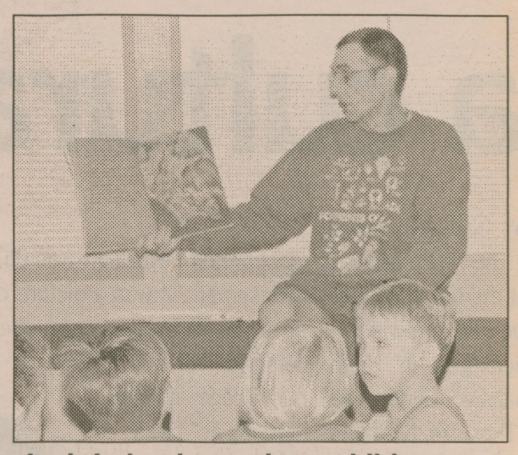
When poverty and a lack of resources affects a woman's health, she may find support with the Together Against Poverty Society (361-3521).

For more information on local women's organizations, contact the Victoria Status of Women's Action Group (381-1012) or the UVic Women's Centre (721-8353).

For more information see the Association of American Family Physicians. Their website has a comprehensve list of links on women's health from IUDs to osteoporosis. http://www.aafp.org/patientinfo/health4.html

Daycare option for student mothers

BY DENA VANDALFSEN



Jack Lalonde reads to children at UVic Daycare.

Martlet photo by Sutton Eaves

When the alarm clock rings in the morning they have a lot more to worry about than breakfast, completed homework and getting to class on time.

On top of the usual student considerations, some women have to feed and dress a child, make them a lunch, get a diaper bag together and drop them off at daycare before getting to class themselves.

Many women in Victoria have found a way to balance the demands of school and parenting. Whether they are trying to complete high school or have gone on to post-secondary education there are many programs to support the student mother.

The University of Victoria Child Care Services offers full-time daycare for children aged 18 months to 12 years old.

On entering the center, I find children gathered around their caregiver listening to a story. Meanwhile, the colorful tables are being set with the children's lunches. The rooms are very light and colourful. There is an art gallery to display the kids' paintings and the shelves are lined with books, games, toys and craft supplies. After the story, the kids burst into the dining room with typical youthful exuberance and amongst the structured excitement, exclaiming over the food, they sit down to lunch.

The 12-month program grants stability and familiarity to the child's day-to-day routines.

"There is a tremendous sense of community," said Lucille MacKay, manager of UVic Child Care Services. "At times they behave like siblings. They are very protective of each other."

Though the UVic daycare is not any cheaper than other local programs it does offer a unique understanding to the student-parent position. "There is a sense of support for the parents," said Danielle Smith-Moran. "There is a strong community in family housing."

Students that do their practicuum at the daycare bring fresh new ideas and information to the programs.

"[A university] affiliation gives us the opportunity to be on the cutting edge of information," said MacKay. "The student-parents bring skills and resources to our program. We are very well supported."

Because the facilities have been built to childcare specifications, it has advantages over businesses run out of church basement and private homes. Children are divided into four age groups and each group has a separate center and playground with age-appropriate materials.

The facilities have room for 117 children. The majority of the spots are reserved for UVic students, but the children of staff and faculty fill about 25 per cent of the spots. If there are empty spaces left over, they can be filled from the general community.

There are also daycare programs in place for parents still in high school. Victoria High and Belmont Secondary both have daycare facilities for students and there is a Girls' Alternative Program (GAP) and Options Daycare Centre next to Lansdowne Junior Secondary.

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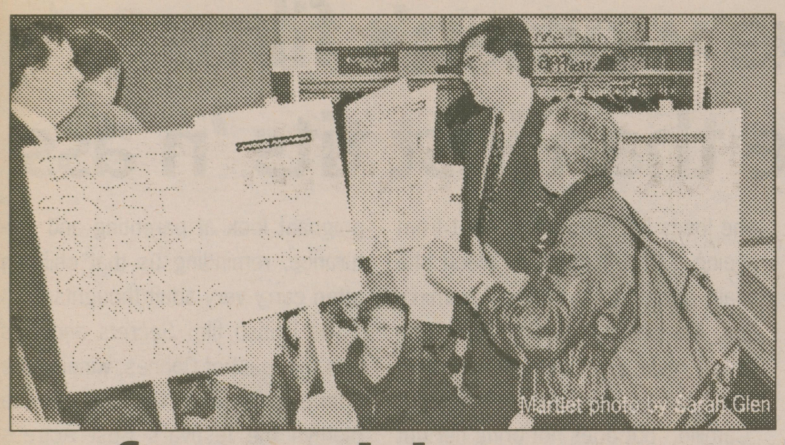


Martlet photo by Sarah Glen

Reform visit campus

BY SARAH GLEN

Linked arm in arm, thundering anti-Reform chants from bullhorns, protesters at the University of Victoria stormed a Reform Party political luncheon two weeks ago.

Protest organizers originally agreed with campus security to picket only the entrance to the university's Cadboro Commons Building where luncheon was held. However, they eventually made their way inside and held an impromptu sit-in in front of the conference room doors where Manning spoke to a sold-out crowd of aging cronies.

"We hope to show Reform members that we don't agree with their policies and the disgusting things they have been saying against homosexuals, women and immigrants," said second-year UVic student Kirsten Larman.

Once inside, protesters clashed with a small group of Reformers who arrived late and stood outside the locked conference room doors.

"This is a shame for students," said Reformer Bruce Hallsor, who compared the protesters' "intimidation" tactics to those of Hitler.

Inside Manning attempted to convince Reformers to vote Yes in the upcoming March referendum aimed at combining the existing Reform Party with the newly-created Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance (Canadian Alliance).

Citing a platform proposing a flat tax, an end to federal funding for multiculturalism and a return to "traditional" family values, the Canadian Alliance will stop vote-splitting between the Conservative Party led by Joe Clark and the Reform Party, helping to defeat the federal Liberal government, said Manning.

But it is exactly that platform that has protesters worried.

"We're trying to protect Canadians' freedom," said UVic history student Ben Isitt and leader of the Community Action Network (CAN), a grassroots organization made up mostly of students.

"[Traditional family values] is a front for backward ideas that chastises anyone who deviates from the stereotypical nuclear family. These values have to do with discrediting the values of the larger community."

"[As far as multiculturalism goes], this is one of the more scary elements ofthe Reform Party. This is a thinly veiled attack...against third world immigrants."

"And the flat tax is a retrograde step that amounts to a tax cut for the wealthy"

But John Koury, executive assistant to Keith Martin, Reform MP for Esquimalt-Juan de Fuca, said he disagrees.

"These protesters come to our meeting to make a spectacle of themselves. It's hard to engage in a debate with those who don't listen," said Koury.

The second referendum deciding the fate of Canada's "Unite The Right" campaign will be announced on March 25, 2000.

UVSS challenged on their politics, choice and policy

BY SIMON GLEZOS

Despite several attempts over the last two weeks, local anti-abortion group Youth Protecting Youth (YPY) has still been denied official club status by the University of Victoria Student Society (UVSS).

At a Feb. 28 UVSS board of directors meeting a motion was tabled that would have reinstated YPY's club status. The motion was introduced by UVSS directors Kari Worton and Summer McFadyen, and was based on the assumption that YPY was willing to abide by the UVSS's pro-choice constitution.

However, at the meeting YPY vice-president Peter Nishimura and spokesperson Chris Massey made it clear that the club would not change its stance on abortion. After a protracted debate Worton withdrew her support of the motion and moved that the issue be tabled until at the March 13 board of directors meeting.

UVSS Chairperson Morgan Stewart expressed his displeasure at what he felt were intentional attempts by YPY to mislead the board.

"They told us they were willing to abide by the policy...That's why we brought forth this motion. Now they're saying that they're not going to follow the policy. They lied to us, plain and simple."

The motion continued the debate that took place during Feb. 18's UVSS semi-annual general meeting. The meeting attracted over 600 students, the largest turnout for a UVSS meeting in years, forcing organizers to move the crowd outside the Student Union Building.

At the meeting YPY attempted to pass an amendment that would have made the UVSS unable to deny any group club status on the basis of their stance on abortion.

The amendment would have needed a two-thirds majority to pass and, according to Marne Jensen, the meeting's chair, it lost by two-thirds. However Peter Nishimura claims the vote was at least 50 per cent in favour.

The decision was met enthusiastically by pro-choice groups present.

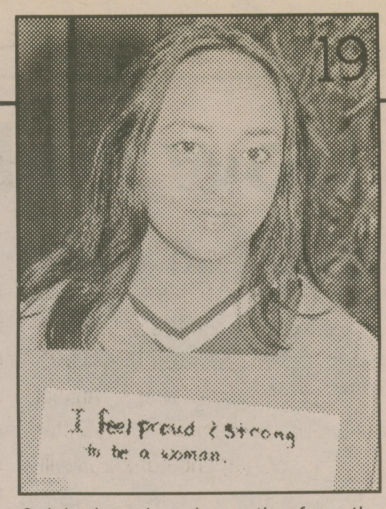
"I'm happy," said Summer McFadyen, UVSS director of finance and one of the most vocal opponents to the motion, "I'm glad we've got a clear mandate from the students."

Youth Protecting Youth members however were optimistic in defeat.

"We knew that getting two-thirds majority was going to be tough to do," said Nishimura. "I think the fact that we were able to get so many people out there...and that we were able to get a 50/50 split shows that a lot of people realized that this wasn't a pro-life or pro-choice issue, but one of free speech."

After the completion of the vote, the overwhelming majority of the students left the meeting, leaving a group of just over one hundred to continue.

Later on, YPY president Rose Coleho introduced a motion from the floor that would have reinstated YPY's club status. At this point the question was raised, of whether or not the meeting had quorum – about 90 people are required to pass a motion.



Though it was questionable at that point whether they had quorum, some 25 students left the meeting, ensuring that they didn't. The question was therefore called out of order and the meeting was adjourned.

Despite this, Stewart was enthusiastic about the outcome of the meeting.

"It was great seeing students there debating. There were a lot of arguments to make this a free speech issue, and it was not. And I think a lot of people who were pro-choice voted yes because they believed it was a free speech issue and it wasn't. Pro-choice is about freedom of expression. Pro-life is about taking away women's rights."

Youth Protecting Youth disagreed.

"I think for every issue there's two sides, and right now there's only one view being expressed on campus. I don't think that's fair, and I don't think it creates the enlightened university atmosphere that people expect of UVic."

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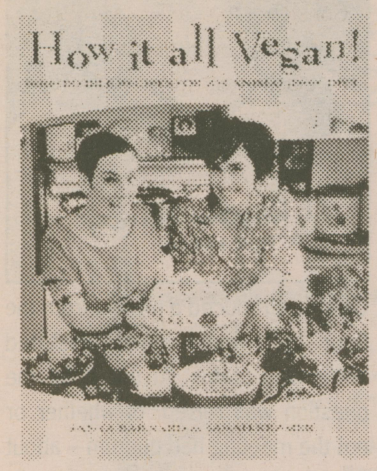

How it all Vegan!
by Sarah Kramer and Tanya Barnard
Arsenal Pulp Press,
Vancouver, B.C. 1999

BY ANN BEHENNAH

With its funky layout and witty text, *How it all Vegan!* dispels the myth that vegan food means "a life of dining on grass and shrubs." As the title suggests, it is a vegan cookbook that provides all the information you need to learn how to eliminate animal products from their diet and convert to a vegan lifestyle. *How it all Vegan!* is a terrific cookbook.

The book's success – it has already gone to a second print and will be available in stores in about 10 days – can be attributed to the fact that the two authors, local longtime friends Tanya Barnard and Sarah Kramer, are lots of fun.

As self-described "lazy vegetarians" whose love of animals made them want to completely eliminate animal products from their diet, their decision to "go vegan" was a challenge – not only to their palates but to their way of thinking about food and nutrition. Their mutual love of food, environmental and animal-rights issues brought them together to write this cookbook.

Complete food enthusiasts, Victoria resident Kramer, and Vancouverite Barnard, both have backgrounds in baking and catering. Their knowledge and creativity shines through as they happily demonstrate that with some imagination and a little know-how, the transition to veganism can be painless.

Vegan food is fabulous food, full of flavour and all the nutrients one needs. How it all Vegan! includes delectable recipes for vegan entrees, soups, sauces, breads, salads, desserts, and beverages. There are instructions for blue banana muffins, mushroom barley stew, chocolate "cheese" cake, tofu jerky as well as vegan versions of ice cream, mayonnaise, and Sloppy Joes. My mum, a home economics teacher, used their maple-nut soup muffin recipe in her Foods 8 class with great success. There's a chapter devoted to children's needs and even instructions on turning other aspects of your life vegan: recipes for cosmetics, hair products, pet treats and household cleaners.

So don't be afraid. Go ahead, use How it all Vegan! to help animal-proof your diet and join the vegan empire!

Alternative women's films offer more than just tits 'n ass

BY TASHA MARSDEN

Video stores cater to masculine whims with rentable action games and movies with ninjas, tits and explosions.

But buried in the shelves are a few good films which portray women in new ways. They are smashing the traditional conceptions of what a woman is or should be. They are women without glamour, stories of motherhood or gushing tears.

A 1931 German film, *Maedchen in Uniform*, tells the story of a lonely girl sent to a strict boarding school for the daughters of Prussian army officers. While dealing with the grief of her mother's death, young Manuela develops a crush on her female teacher.

The film was banned for 27 years because of its treatment of sensuality and its satirical account of facist authoritarianism. It was based on Christa Winsloe's *Gestern und Heute*, and directed by Leontine Sagan.

Following the theme of boarding schools with a twist is "The Mystery of Alexina." René Feret's piece captures the turmoil of a young teacher when she comes to the revelation that she is in love with another woman.

Things start to fall apart after Alexina's feelings are consummated in late night affections with Sarah. She loses her job, and is kept from seeing Sarah altogether. When she finally agrees to a doctor's examination, Alexina finds that she is physically a male. Her reassignment as a male brings out the identity of "Camille," but does not bring her out of the throes of gender confusion.

The Quiet Room made its world premier at the 1996 Cannes Film Festival, a celebrated film about a seven-year-old girl who silences her own voice to get the attention of her fighting parents.

The daughter's thoughts are heard over the assaulting language of her mother and father. The film is a poignant look at parenting and nurturance, reminding us that children often carry very adult thoughts.

The British film *Secrets and Lies* was the toast of Cannes, winning the Palme d'Or and landing Brenda Blethyn the festival's Best Actress award. Under the direction of Mike Leigh, the film tells the story of a low-class family cut apart on many different levels.

Factory worker Cynthia tries to hold together the strained relationship with her daughter Roxanne. Meanwhile Hortense, a black optometrist, is looking for her birth mother. When all three lives cross, years of confusion and resentment explode in a very realistic and touching manner.

For those looking for even more tangible accounts of women's experience rent *Goddess Remembered*, a National Film Board release on goddess worship.

It centres on the ancient goddess-worshipping societies in Malta, France, Delphi and Crete with background commentary from several prominent feminists.

There are many more titles that give fair treatment to women on screen. Foreign film sections tend to have the best selection but even Hollywood spits out the rare "chick flick" that isn't too degrading or stereotypical, such as *Gorillas in the Mist*, *Go*, and *Paradise Road*.

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contact information
the martlet
po box 3035
university of victoria
victoria, bc v8w 3p3

room	sub b011
editors	721-8361
newsroom	721-8360
production	721-8360
advertising	721-8359
fax	472-4556

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the martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from members of the university community, with priority to undergraduate students. Letters must be typewritten, submitted on disk or by e-mail and include your name and phone number for verification. Letters must be 200 words maximum. Letters will be reviewed for libel at ***the martlet*** editorial meeting on the week of publication. Deadline for letters is the Friday noon before publication date. Letters will be prioritized by order received. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed. Anonymous letters will not be printed. Letters will only be edited for spelling, grammar and length.

letters, letters, letters, letters...

Gas-guzzling security

Dear President Strong,

How much gas is used up by the Campus Traffic and Security guys to drive down to Cadboro Bay Village in the university's white Nissan Pathfinders to get their coffee in the morning? Who is paying for the gas? Do you approve of Campus Security guys driving around all over the place in university vehicles to get their caffeine fix?

On many mornings they take a little off-campus ride to get their coffee and donuts (today, 22 February, at 8:30 am, for example, they were in the pastry shop in the village, loading up, one guy in uniform, and the other guy apparently the boss). Who pays for the gas? Is there something wrong with campus coffee? What if they are involved in an accident? Surely those vehicles aren't insured "for pleasure use?" Someone should call ICBC.

And why do they drive around in those expensive Pathfinders hunting down errant parkers in the first place? Why don't they cycle or walk? How much gas is used every year, when they could be burning off those pastries? (Pathfinders are classified as trucks, so their emission standards are much worse than ordinary cars).

Answers, please!

T. Domn

Martlet fascism

I congratulate you on your convictions.

In this day in age it is, to say the least, uncommon to have a paper which is so unabashedly ultra-left. You are such rebels.

I have been at UVic for a while, and have not read one (count'em)- not one editorial that was not a cliché, and/or devoid of common sense. But hey! *The Martlet* espouses an ideology which does not need facts or reason, just belief. Just like fascism.

Maybe it's my valuing of personal freedom, the valuing of the entrepreneurial spirit, and my own personal belief in free speech which leads me to disagree.

It's time all you communists with a hard-on to suppress personal freedom realize something: Canada has never been, or ever will be a North Korea or a Cuba. You can listen to all the Rage Against the Machine albums until you are deaf, and read *Adbusters* until you go blind. But guess what? Deep down, Canadians believe in freedom and democracy.

You want a revolution? You want to protest anything and everything? Be my guest. Jump right in with your communist jackasses' abroad and leave Canada, you traitors.

M. Collins

Transcend

We were pleased that *the Martlet* included interviews with transgendered people in the Feb. 10 queer issue of the paper. Unfortunately, some statements made about the group Transcend were misleading.

Transcend is an organization that provides education on transgender issues and seeks to improve services for transgendered people through advocacy and peer support.

Transcend is not a support group per se. One of our immediate goals is the establishment of a peer support group for transgendered people. We are hoping to do this in partnership with the Capital Health Region's mental health services. Until a more organized support group exists, people within Transcend can offer some informal one-to-one support.

While peer support is a high priority for us, we are also actively involved in education campaigns. Our Transgender Speakers Bureau offers presentations on transgender experience and social, medical, and legal issues affecting transgendered people and our families.

As pointed out in the article, transgendered people are not protected by existing human rights legislation. While many of the people involved with Transcend have worked in other groups and as individuals to remedy this injustice, political lobbying is not the focus of Transcend.

Last, but not least, anyone interested in getting involved can reach us by calling 413-3220. The support group FTM Etcetera, which is for anyone born female who identifies as masculine all or part of the time, can also be reached at this number.

Ingrid Olson, Joshua Goldberg, and Julian Gunn for Transcend

GM foods

I am not presently attending UVic, in fact I am very much a has been in the way of a student. I realized all this when I picked up a copy of the Feb. 17 *Martlet* and read all about professor William Kay's marvellous genetically modified (GM) potatoes which can withstand the blight and possibly other evils. Potatoes that will feed our over-population problems.

I accept that Dr. Kay is correct when he states that the world population will have increased by one or two million by 2020 – at least in that part of the world we designate as 'Third.' I have always been a bit wobbly when it comes to mathematics, especially as regards projecting population, but it seems that by his calculations there could be four to five billion more people in 2040 than 20 years before – well that is if we can persuade them to eat GM foods and these foods perform as expected, then by that time GM foods will be all there is. Will there still be forests? or fossil fuels? etc., etc. Ah, but the potato fields will still be there and maybe GM rice because the tropical third world isn't all that crazy about potatoes.

Only time will tell if the brave new world of GM foods will have a fecund effect on the various degrees of our population including the First right down to those in the Third and lower stratas of this world. It is possible of course that the GM scientists have overlooked something and the GM stuff will prove toxic thus solving the over-population problem.

Monica Oldham

Thought experiment

Consider the following thought experiment. Assume contrary to fact, blacks and whites in the United States hold positions of equal importance and influence. Assume further that about 10 per cent of each group is racist, and that the country is both residentially and professionally integrated. Given these unrealistic assumptions, it is not hard to demonstrate that since blacks comprise approximately 13 per cent of the US population and whites the remaining 87 per cent (for these purposes, whites are non-blacks), blacks will still suffer disproportionately from racism.

The chance that a white will run into a black racist in any given encounter with another person is 1.3 per cent (10 per cent of 13 per cent), whereas the likelihood that a black on any given encounter will do so is 8.7 per cent (10 per cent of 87 per cent). This disparity becomes more pronounced as the number of a person's contacts grow. If a white person encounters 25 people, the average number of racists s/he will encounter is 0.33. If a black person encounters 25 people, the average number of racists s/he will encounter is 2.18.

The conclusion is that minority status by itself can make equal opportunity difficult to achieve or maintain. In fact, if the already idealized above mentioned conditions held, but now only two per cent of whites and 10 per cent of blacks were racist, blacks would still encounter more racism than would whites.

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STRIKE UNREALISTIC

(Letter has been edited for length)

Though I found the Student Voice article of your last issue to be unusually insightful and truthful, I think that the author misses the mark by suggesting apathy was behind the decision of the vast majority of students to sleep in on February 2. I suspect that, rather than apathy, it is the "all or nothing," dictatorial approach of the strike organizers that made conscientious support of the strike impossible for most of the student body.

Though all of us would like to see funding to universities increased, there is no obvious way in which this funding should be administered. The platform offered by the CFS is by no means axiomatic. Few would agree that post-secondary education is a "basic need" along the lines of food and shelter. Furthermore, the notion of "grants not loans" for all students, or students who have a greater perceived need, seems to be rather naïve and unfair. There are, to be frank, far too many people at UVic to whom university is a four year drinking party. Why not instead suggest merit-based loan remissions to make education available for all those who earn it through hard work and aptitude?

However, suggestions like this, and potential rebuttals to them, never came to light. Rather than initiating an intelligent and rational debate among the student body, the UVSS simply presented us with a list of demands, and then acted as if we should be ashamed of ourselves for not leaping up in obedience to their superior wisdom. Your Soap Box article in last week's issue is case and point. If the student leadership at UVic wants to accomplish anything, they are going to have to learn to address their fellow students as intellectual equals, not as a sort of "Red Guard" that stands at the beck and call of the Party Vanguard.

Geoff Harder

UVIC NARROW-MINDED

For what's billed as a progressive University, the attitudes of people at the University of Victoria have surprised me as being intolerant and narrow-minded. For the two years prior to coming to the University in September, I lived and worked in the bible-belt city of Abbotsford and the redneck city of Kamloops. I have never experienced anything like the attitudes of some of the students here.

I was disgusted by the editorial in the March 17 edition of *the Martlet* which distinguished "them," being Youth Protecting Youth and other pro-life/anti-choice supporters, from "us," being the UVSS. The editor should wake-up and realize that "them" and "us" are one and the same.

In Canada, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the courts protect minority views from government actions. Realizing that due to cost, the courts are not a viable option for students, the UVSS Board of Directors has decided to steamroller over minority views. The actions of the UVSS in denying these students' freedom of expression directly parallel the actions of the police and Prime Minister's Office at the APEC protests and those of undemocratic governments such as the former Suharto regime in Indonesia.

By denying Youth Protecting Youth club status, they are denying them a benefit that is supposed to be available to all students. The services provided by the UVSS should be available only to white, third generation or greater Canadians who subscribe to the bullshit propaganda the UVSS spews forth.

Chris Horte

FREEDOM TO EXPRESS

Although the vote has already taken place I would like those who voted against the motion to consider these things.

Pro-life is not anti-choice, pro-life is about making life the best choice, and hopefully the only choice one would want to take. During the semi-AGM many people called pro-life sexist, racist and homophobic. I am not going to get into racism and homophobia since I have no idea how they relate to views on abortion, however, I can see how people may see it as sexist. It does appear to take away women's rights. The flaw with this is if males could get pregnant, pro-lifers would be want all pregnant men to keep their children.

At the AGM people considered the pro-life a minority view, I do not disagree but I would argue that pro-choice is also a minority view and say that the majority view on abortion is undecided. For the majority let them hear both sides of the argument, having only one side with club status and funding is denying all students their right to unbiased information.

In my opinion, denying status and funding to a club clearly takes away its power to express itself. Therefore revoking club status and funding is a violation of the Canadian Charter of Rights. And if the UVSS breaks the Charter of Rights for freedom of expression, what's to stop them from violating the freedom against discrimination?

Eric Morrill

UVSS HEGEMONY

(Letter has been edited for length)

I am ashamed to call myself a member of the University of Victoria Student Society. For four years I have supported various clubs willingly through my student fees, believing that the society sought to represent all of its members and their ideas. In the aftermath of the UVSS annual general meeting and the loss of Youth Protecting Youth's club status and funding, I can see clearly now that absolute adherence to ideologies of the UVSS far outweighs the merit of freedom of expression.

Abortion is a complex issue, and while I personally do not believe that it is right, I respect the choices that other women are going to make about their bodies. I cannot agree with them, and I still let their voice be heard, for I feel it is vital to have expression from all sides. What I disagree with is the limitation of one of those voices. For a university whose very foundations are principles of liberty, freedom, expression, and safety for all students, the situation that Youth Protecting Youth found themselves in was deplorable. Being attacked and labeled as sexist, racist and homophobic in posters and in the meeting, this 'club' chose to concentrate on the amendment at hand and not delve into the emotional issues of abortion. I am ashamed to be a member of a society that cannot separate the issues of abortion and the right to voice opinions about it. This sets a dangerous precedent of censorship on our campus. What personal freedoms will be violated next time? Perhaps next we could have a book burning session or two in the empty fountain.

Danielle Warren

THANKS FOR VOTING

THANK YOU, every one of you, for coming out and voting at this AGM. I don't care which way you voted. I deeply appreciate the fact that you actually showed up to vote instead of continuing with your daily routine.

Abortion is a passionate issue: 500 people did not show up to the AGM on Thursday because they were looking for something fun to do on a sunny afternoon, free UVSS donuts nonetheless. This passion could easily turn into close-minded resentment, but it doesn't have to. We need to remember that everyone involved in this issue, pro-choice or pro-life, is trying to do what she/he feels is right. It's easy to point fingers and shout nasty things, but let's keep it a clean fight. Go ahead and bash the argument, but respect the arguer.

Maybe one day the whole campus will share the same opinion on abortion. And maybe one day bunnies will fly out of my ass. Until that happens (and I'll keep *the Martlet* posted), I hope we can find a way to respect each others' beliefs without comp romising our own.

What did you think about this week? Abortion? Freedom of choice? Freedom of speech? Democracy? Good. So did I. Let's not stop.

Annamarie Ruelle

YPY SILENCE UNFAIR

As a graduate student at the University of Victoria, I am perturbed by last week's handling of the pro-life club on campus. When I have seen the club's displays on campus, they offer information to women and men about abortion, discuss options and provide support. There has not been any hateful literature or any indication that the pro-life group is "asking to take away women's control of their own bodies" as Roshni Narain, co-ordinator of UVic's Sexual assault Centre claimed in UVic's *Martlet* (Feb. 17) article.

UVSS president Morgan Stewart is quoted as saying in that story that the UVSS is a "political group" which has "taken a stand on this issue." He is also quoted in the Feb. 20 *Times Colonist* as saying "they [the pro-life group] have every right to say what they believe... and if there's anywhere freedom of debate is encouraged, it's on this campus." I don't think so!

Mandatory student fees pay honoraria for executive members like Stewart and among other allocations give money to clubs – but only UVSS-sanctioned clubs. Why is the UVSS a "political group" which decides for all the students on campus what they collectively believe about issues? The abortion issue is very personal and for many people not necessarily political at all. This "big brother" mentality has no place on a university campus.

E. Rosemary Brown

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Regan Toews performs her graduating viola recital on **Wednesday, March 8 at 8:00 p.m.** in the Phillip T. Young Recital Hall (in the B-Wing of the MacLaurin building.) She will perform Bach's Sixth Suite and will then be joined by Jennifer Manklow, pianist, for Brahms' "E-flat major Sonata" and Clarke's "Sonata for Viola and Piano." Free admission.

From the producers of UVic's Oktoberfest comes the German club's answer to Mardi Gras... KARNIVAL! When: **Friday March 10 at 7:00 p.m.** Where: Velox Rugby Club. What: costume masquerade including live music by Gigglebush, food, prizes and BEvERages. How: $5 for tickets being sold the week of **March 6 - 10**, 11:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the SUB. $7 at the door. Who: YOU!

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Butt-ugly tomatoes. Heirloom seedlings. Contact Lisa at the campus community gardens at kadonaga@uvic.ca

off-campus

Diotima Philosophy Society. Explore diverse philosophical orientations, Western and Eastern. Improve thinking, awareness, and mediating skills. All levels. **Mondays 7:00-9:30 p.m.** Room 213 - 932 Balmoral St., $3, 595-5097.

accommodations

Student special: Lakehill one br. suite in house: private entrance, laundry, utilities incl. $400/month. First month free. Avail. March 1. Call 382-8666.

Fairfield (off Moss St) quiet, character duplex - bachelor suite. Garden access. Suits 1 non-smoker. Female preferred. Cat welcome. $550/month inclusive. Available immediately.

volunteers

True community is built from the inside out. "Community Connections" reaches out to persons who have a developmental disability, fostering friendship, community inclusion and shared fun! Consider spending a few hours each week as a mentor and friend – and find out how you can make a difference. For info call Citizen Advocacy at 598-6786.

Attention students in Education, Biology, Geography and Environmental Studies – gain practical experience with relevant volunteer positions in nature education, stream restoration, and trail design and construction. Contact Joan at Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary for more details. Phone 479-0211 or e-mail jcowley@swanlake.bc.ca

announcements

Feature Film Auditions – Tuesday March 7th 7:00 - 10:00pm. Low budget 16mm film, all roles are unpaid, film to be shot in April, call Erin at 472-3551 or Gloria at 595-1842 before Sunday March 5 for more info.

Summer camp counselors: on-campus interviews for premier camps in Massachusetts. Positions available for talented, energetic and fun-loving students as counselors in all team sports, including roller hockey and lacrosse, all individual sports, such as tennis and golf, waterfront and pool activities and specialty activities, including art, dance, theatre, gymnastics, newspaper, rocketry and radio. Great salaries, room, board, travel and US summer work visa. **June 17 to August 16**. Enjoy a great summer that promises to be unforgettable. For more information contact www.campmkn.com or 1-800-753-9118 (for boys' camp) or www.danbee.com or 1-800-392-3752 (for girls' camp). Interviewer will be on campus **Wednesday and Thursday, March 8 and 9** from **10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** in the Michèle Pujol Room in the Student Union Building. An information session will also be held Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m.

Recovering from a breakup? You might be interested in participating in a research study that I am conducting to determine the effectiveness of a short-term journal writing program for individuals who are recovering from romantic relationship loss. For more information, please contact Jessica Altrows at 370-0345 or e-mail me with you name and telephone number at jaltrows@uvic.ca

tutors

The Thinkery: Tutoring for English/humanities $20/hr. Excelling in the Arts. $18 (M.A. graduate, Wagner Fellow ('95), author). Proofreading, mentorial service, etc. Phone 595-8438 or fax 595-8401.

A – ffect Tutoring: Philosophy, English, education. $15/hour. Call Carlos 881-8784.

English tutor available for help with ESL, essay writing and proofreading. Reasonable rates. Bente 592-8340.

help wanted

Get on the Fast Track. Be your own boss and set your own hours. Call now! (toll-free 24-hour message) 1-877-269-7615 – Excel Canada Independent Representative.

Earn $200, $300, $500 or more per week, assembling product in the comfort of your own home. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to : O.P.H. 6-2400 Dundas St., west, suite 541 Ref 1390, Mississauga, Ont. L5K-2R8.

Painters wanted – experience an asset but not required. Vehicle an asset. Call Leanne @ 721-3070.

services

Tax preparation with pick-up and delivery. Vida Samim CGA. Phone 477-4600 or 477-4601.

suitemoves.com, student-run moving/delivery service. From $30. "Real service in a virtual world." Call 704-6683 for details.

hey you!

Grand Master J: Nanninersary Love M-Dog 1.

Adam: We keep bumping into each other. It must mean something. Coffee? This time I won't be busy. Sarah.

gregor, it's your birthday, crackstar, and you can – sing, dance, belt it out, strut, eat pitas, trash talk like fantasia, be our hero – if you want to. (and you know you want to). happy 'b' day from the whole team.

corbi-la. watashi wa anata ga aishimasu. happy international women's day, honey.

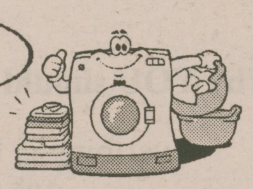
Queen of flash and funk: I love you Momma. You are the number one lady in my life.

billboard rates

students & clubs	$2/issue
non-students	$2/line
businesses	$5.50/line
hey you!	$1/issue

The Laundry

corner of Richmond and Fort St.

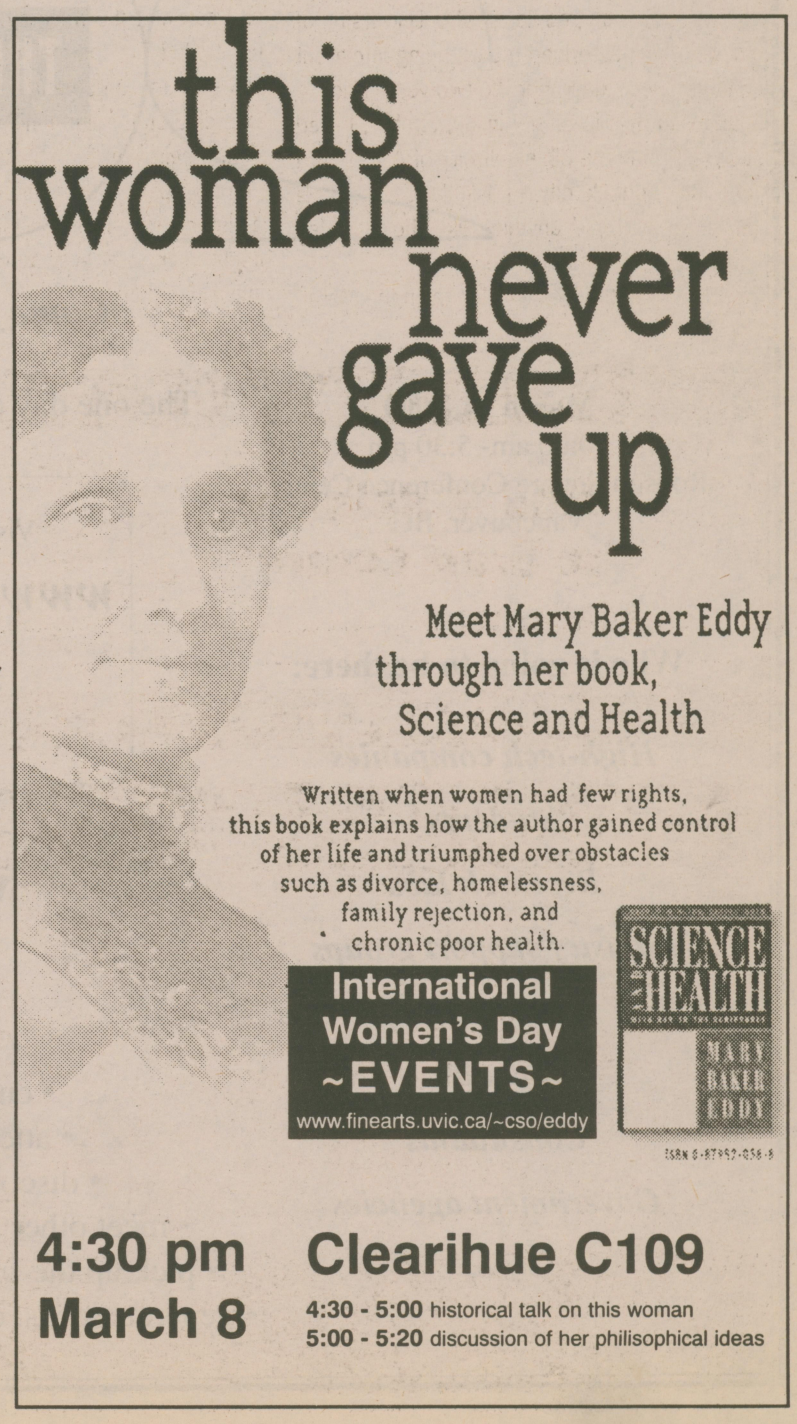


1769 Fort St., Victoria, B.C.
598-7977

- student discounts
- self service laundromat, laundry supplies available
- full time attendant - on bus route
- dry-cleaning, alterations and repairs
- public internet and e-mail stations
- fax and photocopy services

home of the 'HOOSH' oversize laundry backpack!

www.members.home.net/thelaundry



All religious clubs and organizations advertising on the billboards page must adhere to the following statement: "Everyone is welcome. We oppose discrimination on the basis of race, gender and sexuality."

martlet women pose in miranda's backyard for international women's day
martlet photo by Kristen Froneman

2000

THE ASI EXCHANGE

Come for an hour ... come for the day

March 14, 2000
10:00 am- 5:30 pm
Robson Square Conference Centre
Vancouver, BC

The one day event for BC's high technology community

presented by the
BC Advanced Systems Institute (ASI)

Visit our website for further information

www.asi.bc.ca/asi/exchange

• schedule of events
• companies registered & displaying
• seminar & speaker information

Who is going to be there:

High-tech companies
Students
Research labs
Industry support groups
Investors
Faculty
Consultants
Government agencies

Why YOU should be there:

• everthing is **FREE**
• view over 200 displays
• meet company representatives
• enjoy the wine & cheese reception
• attend seminars & keynote addresses
• discover BC's leading edge technologies
• meet other students and faculty in your research area
• pick up the Industry and Academic Research Directories
• generate ideas, contracts and business/research collaborations

To Register

E-mail lisa@asi.bc.ca with the following:

• name
• institution
• department
• e-mail address
• indicate if you are an undergraduate, graduate, faculty or staff

PAID ADVERTISEMENT PAID ADVERTISEMENT PAID ADVERTISEMENT PAID ADVERTISEMENT PAID ADVERTISEMENT

UVSS

• ELECTION PLATFORMS •

FOR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(EXECUTIVE and DIRECTORS AT LARGE)

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

AND SENATE

PLATFORMS

PLATFORMS

POLLING STATIONS

TUESDAY MARCH 7
9 am - 4 pm

CLEARIHUE, CORNETT, MACLAURIN, MCPHERSON LIBRARY, STUDENT UNION BLDG, UNIVERSITY CENTRE

WEDNESDAY MARCH 8
noon - 8 pm

CADBORO COMMONS, CLASSROOM BLDG, CLEARIHUE, CORNETT, ELLIOT, ENGINEERING, FINE ARTS, MACLAURIN, MCKINNON GYM, MCPHERSON LIBRARY, STUDENT UNION BLDG, UNIVERSITY CENTRE

THURSDAY MARCH 9
9 am - 4 pm

BEGBIE, CLASSROOM BLDG, CORNETT, CLEARIHUE, ELLIOT, ENGINEERING, HSD, MACLAURIN, MCPHERSON LIBRARY, STUDENT UNION BLDG, UNIVERSITY CENTRE

BRING STUDENT ID

NO ON-LINE VOTING

ALL CANDIDATES FORUMS

THURS., MAR. 2nd
12:30 - 2:30pm
CINECENTA,
STUDENT UNION BUILDING

MON., MAR. 6th
12:30 - 2:30pm
MICHÈLE PUJOL ROOM,
STUDENT UNION BUILDING

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

CHAIRPERSON

Summer McFadyen

Students play an important role in advocating for high quality, fully accessible colleges and universities. As chair, I will work with other Board members and students at UVic to continue our campaign for increased government funding, lower tuition fees, and improvements to student financial assistance.

The UVSS must continue to improve communication so that all students feel involved in the projects and activities of the society including committees, clubs, course unions and constituency groups.

Students also expect good services from their Students' Society. The UVSS Board must continue to solicit feedback from students on how services in the SUB can be expanded and improved to better serve students' needs.

As UVSS Director of Finance, I have:

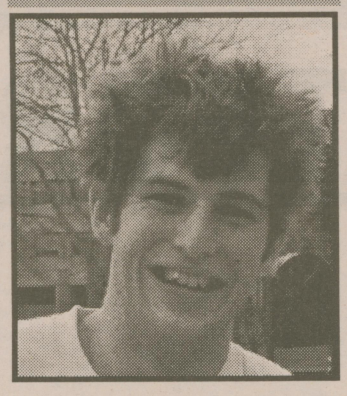
- ✔ Negotiated the implementation of one-time opt-outs for the health plan
- ✔ Implemented the Universal Bus Pass and appeal process
- ✔ Achieved a $90,000 reduction of the accumulated deficit
- ✔ Organized campaigns on funding, tuition fees and student debt
- ✔ Helped organize Weeks of Welcome concerts and special events

As Chairperson I am committed to:

- ✔ Campaigning against student debt and tuition fee increases while advocating for increased funding for education.
- ✔ Playing a leadership role in developing stronger communication between the UVSS Board of Directors and students.
- ✔ Working with student groups to create and support campaigns that increase awareness about discrimination with the goal of creating a learning environment in which all members of society can fully participate.

My skills, enthusiasm, and commitment, prepare me well to work for positive change on behalf of all students. Please contact me with any questions you may have at summerm@uvic.ca.

CHAIRPERSON



Ian Opelik

We the students want our voices to be heard. Many of us think because we are one, we are weak. But, when many hydrogen bonds interact, a very strong bond forms which is hard to break!!!. Next year, I hope that the chairperson is elected by a large majority, because I don't want to stand before you assuming your opinions. I want to stand before the students confident, knowing that I'm representing each and every one of you.

As chair, I want to preserve the tuition freeze, because I'm proud to say that I attend UVic, a university whose students are fortunate to have some of the lowest tuition fees in the country. But this is not enough, I want to push for increased government funding to keep quality education affordable. I want the government to give more freedom in student loans and an increase in the quality and quantity of grants awarded.

Having been a rower for the University of Victoria, I want to campaign for more funding to the sport teams and clubs. I think that this is important to all because having a place where you can relate with other people physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually is very important in gaining confidence in one's self.

Sure this may sound like the average bullshit that you may hear from your typical candidate, but I am strong in my convictions and it is time for a new face, a new voice, in our university.

ALL CANDIDATES FORUM

THURS, **MAR. 2nd**
12:30 - 2:30pm
CINECENTA, SUB

MON, **MAR. 6th**
12:30 - 2:30pm
MICHÈLE PUJOL ROOM, SUB

SERVICES

Jaime Matten

The role of the Director of Services is to provide activities and clubs to complement the academic realm of university life. I am dedicated to working closely with the clubs and constituency groups on campus to provide services and activities that support the diversity of students at UVic. I am committed to working with students to ensure that the campus is free of discrimination, and is an environment in which all students can fully participate.

I am a second year Women's Studies student, and have gained the experience needed to be successful in this position. As an active member of the UVSS Board of Directors, some of my involvements include:

- ✔ Women's Centre Rep. to the Board of Directors, 1999/2000
- ✔ Organizer, Access 2000 campaign
- ✔ Assistant to the UVSS campaigns committee
- ✔ Undergraduate Rep., Women's Studies Department, 1998/1999

As Director of Services, I will:

- ✔ Encourage the development of new clubs and provide better and needed resources for clubs
- ✔ Provide more social opportunities for students on campus; including year end celebrations
- ✔ Campaign for a better safewalk program on campus
- ✔ Support environmental initiatives in the sub
- ✔ Address issues of poverty on campus; including a food bank or hamper program
- ✔ Ensure the continuation of successful Weeks of Welcome
- ✔ Advocate for the rights of student parents
- ✔ Work with other students' unions through the Canadian Federation of Students on the campaign for accessible education, for the continuation of the tuition freeze and a national system of grants

It is my goal to have effective and open communication between the Board of Directors and students, clubs, and constituency groups. Together we will advance our common interests as students. I am enthusiastic, dedicated and have the necessary skills to be successful in this position.

SERVICES

Annamarie Ruelle

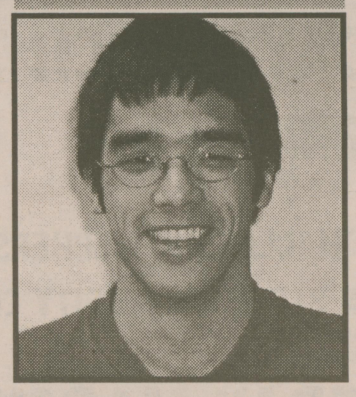
Q: Why should I vote for Annamarie Ruelle as Director of Services?

A: Neither you nor I have time for 300 words of political drivel, so here's my platform, short and sweet: You pay **$124.90** in UVSS fees every year. That's a lot of money. (And no, I don't think you should pay it if you're on a co-op work term.) I'm going to make sure you get $124.90 out of the UVSS, in programs that **you** want, **you** need, and **you** benefit from.

I'm outspoken, stubborn, and OK, I'm a bitch. But I am organized and fair and I get stuff done.

If you're in the mood for an organized UVSS that spends your money on relevant services, grab that stretched-head student card and vote for **Annamarie Ruelle** as **Director of Services.**

FINANCE



Greg Awai

The role of the Director of Finance is to ensure the financial health of the Society without compromising student goals and priorities. I have the skills necessary to oversee the budget and other financial aspects of the Society. As Director of Finance I will ensure that your Students' Society fees are used responsibly and in the best interests of students. In organizing against the Word Trade Organization my commitment to fighting the corporate encroachment of public institutions has increased, and I will continue working towards a fully accessible, high-quality, public post-secondary education system.

As Director of Finance I will:

- ✔ Make the budgeting process open and inclusive to students.
- ✔ Continue to reduce the Society's deficit in a responsible manner.
- ✔ Work to maintain good relations with SUB employees.
- ✔ Ensure that SUB services are high quality and affordable for students
- ✔ Campaign for increased education funding and the reduction of tuition fees to ensure accessible education for all.

The Students' Society should monitor the spending and investment of the university. As Director of Finance I will monitor corporate involvement in education at UVic and encourage the university to not collaborate with ethically or environmentally irresponsible corporations.

Fully accessible education is essential for a healthy society. I will work with students towards a reduction and eventual elimination of tuition fees across Canada to make a high quality, public education accessible to all.

In the past year I have been involved in the Students' Society as an organiser for both the anti-WTO campaign and the Access 2000 campaign.

I am committed to making positive advances for students everywhere, and feel that I will be able to effect change as the Director of Finance . (Did I mention, I am also a math student).

ACADEMICS

Kari Worton

We are a diverse student population, and I am committed to working on your behalf to advocate for students' rights and high academic standards. As Director of Academics this past year I have worked to ensure that students are represented in all areas affecting their education.

Students must be consulted and involved in the administration of their education. I will continue to sit on Senate next year and liaise between the university and students. I have worked with course unions to facilitate their growth, and aided many students in finding funding for travel related to their education. I have also helped students write appeals, and negotiate their way through the administrative red tape of university life.

UVic was ranked the third best school in Canada last year by Maclean's magazine. We offer high quality education, and I am committed to maintaining those standards and working to improve them.

continued

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • DIRECTOR AT LARGE

CANDIDATES FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

continued from page 2

I believe students deserve high quality education, and am dedicated to continue advocating for fully accessible public post-secondary education. I believe education is a fundamental right, and will continue to demand increased government funding for education to address issues such as department cuts, overcrowded classrooms and waitlists. We must continue campaigning for the reduction and eventual elimination of tuition fees.

In my next term as Director of Academics I will:

- ✔ Support course unions and student organisations on campus.
- ✔ Smooth students' paths to their education by being a resource for appeals and advising on academic issues.
- ✔ Ensure that public post-secondary education remains a priority for funding, and as a result is high quality and accessible.

I am dedicated to advancing our common interest as students. I am enthusiastic, committed and have the experience necessary to do the work. If you have any questions please contact me at kworton@uvic.ca.

DON'T FORGET YOUR STUDENT ID!!!

Amanda Bedard

I am a third year History and Anthropology student. I have been involved in the student movement since my first year here, and believe that being a part of the solution is imperative. I am running as a Director-at-Large, and I bring to the Board of Directors the following experience:

- ✔ Native Student Union Representative to the Board of Directors, 1999-2000
- ✔ Fundraising Councillor, Native Student Union, 1999-2000
- ✔ Director-At-Large, Board-of Directors, 1998-1999

As Director-at-Large this time around, I will continue to promote diversity and ensure this is reflected in decisions made by the board. Aspects of past campaigns, such as Access 2000, needed more attention to specific issues such as Aboriginal access to education, which encompasses the economic and social conditions of Aboriginal communities. I will continue to lobby for recognition of issues that can be sometimes ignored within mainstream issues.

I believe that being a Director-at-Large is a constant learning process, no matter what experience one brings. The dynamic nature of student politics requires an open-minded approach. I feel that with my previous experience in student politics I can honestly bring such an approach to the board.

Alice Byers

I am running for re-election as a director-at-large. I am a third year student, majoring in Environmental Studies and Italian. In the past year I have worked with Kari Worton on the environmental responsibility committee, improving recycling in the SUB. In running for a position on the board again this year, I hope to bring a renewed energy to the following areas:

- ✔ Making the maintenance and development of environmental policies a priority, including the improvement of recycling and the consideration of composting facilities where possible, among other things.
- ✔ Providing students with access to information and opportunities to participate in programs and services in the SUB and on campus.
- ✔ Encouraging acceptance and appreciation of diversity in the campus community.
- ✔ Working toward making post-secondary education accessible and restoring government funding to post-secondary institutions.

We have had a high level of student participation in the student's society in the past year. Last year I ran on a platform of involving students in the society's decisions and if I am re-elected, I will be even better equipped this year. Please be sure to vote March 7, 8, and 9.

Holly Calver

Hello, my name is Holly Calver. I am a third year student majoring in Child and Youth Care. If elected as Director at Large my primary interest will be to represent the interests that concern YOU.

To this position, I bring an abundance of experience. While in Nelson I served as Chairperson of the local Youth Council. Filling this position entailed being a liaison between the city's youth and the community. This was accomplished by my representation on various community boards and committees.

As Director at Large I will:

- ✔ Work towards lower tuition fees and increased education funding
- ✔ Ensure that the quality of our education is not only maintained, but enhanced
- ✔ Make the UVSS a visible and important part of every student's experience at our university
- ✔ Promote the equality of services for ALL students
- ✔ Ensure that every student's academic rights are protected

I can provide you with the style of leadership that you deserve. If you have any concerns or questions please contact me at hcalver@hotmail.com.

Remember a vote for Holly Calver is a vote for you!

Jonas Gifford

Education issues are among the most important issues today. Federal funding cuts are seriously affecting our education and our student movement needs dedicated and experienced leaders to keep education among our country's highest priorities.

This year, I have been one of your Students' Society's most active directors. I worked hard on the enormously successful Access 2000 strike and demonstration, and on many UVSS committees. I have helped out with

- ✔ weeks of welcome,
- ✔ environmental initiatives in the SUB,
- ✔ major improvements to the UVSS web site, and
- ✔ business decisions in the SUB.

I represent students on the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee, the Mathematics and Statistics Department Chair Search Committee, and the Alumni Association Excellence in Teaching Awards Committee.

As your director next year, I will

- ✔ continue my work in student campaigns to improve accessibility and quality of education, and to fight corporate influence,
- ✔ ensure students are consulted in major decisions and campaign strategies,
- ✔ continue to pursue environmental initiatives,
- ✔ promote sound financial decisions, and
- ✔ always be open to the opinions and concerns of students.

I will continue to put students first and be open to all students. Email me any time at jgifford@uvic.ca.

Scott Hart

I am a third year history student. As UVic Students' Society Director at Large I will strive to advocate for concerns of the whole student body.

Students fought hard for the tuition fee freeze. I joined you on the picket lines this past February 2, and as Director at Large I will continue to work hard to ensure that the freeze will stay in place. Furthermore, I believe it is time for a tuition fee reduction.

I recognize the concerns students have with waiting lists, class sizes, and out of date lab equipment that have come with federal funding cuts. I will fight to get funding back for Post-Secondary Education.

I also have a concern that the University Safewalk program needs to be improved. I will work to improve awareness of the Safewalk program, and push for expansion. The safety of students on campus should be a top priority.

As Director at Large my main goal will be getting students informed and involved in the decision making process. I wish to bring as many voices to the Board of Directors as possible. In doing so the process will be more democratic, and the right decisions with be made.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE

AN OPPORTUNITY YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

ALL CANDIDATES FORUM

THURS, **MAR. 2nd**
12:30 - 2:30pm
CINECENTA,
STUDENT UNION BUILDING

MON, **MAR. 6th**
12:30 - 2:30pm
MICHÈLE PUJOL ROOM,
STUDENT UNION BUILDING

CAST AN INFORMED VOTE!

GET OUT & VOTE!

PAID ADVERTISEMENT PAID ADVERTISEMENT PAID ADVERTISEMENT PAID ADVERTISEMENT PAID ADVERTISEMENT

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Ben Isitt

My name is Ben and I'm running for Director at Large.

I believe in a student union driven by the participation, leadership, and creativity of every member. I commit myself to expanding the resources and services available to students and to facilitate a wide variety of cultural, social, and political projects.

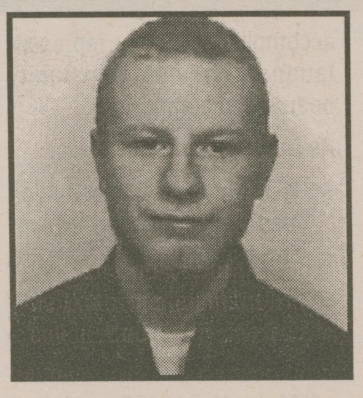
I'm a third-year history and journalism student and a dedicated social justice activist. I believe in equality for all, and in the creation of a sustainable, healthy, and peaceful society. I am running to ensure that students' needs and concerns are heard.

I believe in universal access to post-secondary education. I intend to fight for increased funding and for the progressive reduction of tuition fees. Impossible, you say? Irish students won free education in 1995 and Scottish students in 1997...both economies are now booming.

I want to work on your behalf to make sure that all students at UVic have a voice.

Vote for me, but don't stop there. Be active in your student union and give me hell the moment I screw up.

If you have any questions or ideas, please email me at bisitt@uvic.ca.



Ryan Johnston

I believe the UVSS must represent all students, not just those who speak the loudest. One duty of the directors-at-large is to keep the executive directors accountable to the student body; to provide opposition. As a director-at-large I will be very diligent in providing opposition in the board meetings to make sure that both sides of all issues are discussed. I believe that students should get a voice on all policies and that old policies should go to referendum to ensure that we as a student body still believe in them. I oppose any UVSS fees for students on co-op. I will address the problem of mandatory membership in the UVSS. I support a democratic UVSS and will do all I can to keep the UVSS responsible and accountable to the students of UVic.

Kevin McCauley

If elected I intend to work with the UVSS to increase student activism at the University of Victoria and at post-secondary institutions across Canada. Only by creating a truly active student body can we achieve our goal of a quality post-secondary education that is accessible to all Canadians.

In drafting UVSS policy initiatives I will bring my personal ideals of social responsibility and environmentalism to the bargaining table, and I will vote against any proposal that may counteract these principles.

At the request of my constituents, my first action as Director-at-Large will be to present legislation to the UVSS calling for the formation of a UVIC break-dancing team, to represent our school at various events across Canada and the United States. Creating such a body is practical in that it would allow a segment of the student population to artistically express themselves and receive the recognition of their peers for their pursuit of b-boy perfection.

I'd appreciate your vote on election day. Together we can do it!

Andrew McVie

The UVSS is a mandatory student government. They take our fees (taxes), and spend them on our behalf. They also make decisions that affect all of our lives, such as the U-Pass, Pepsi, and the Student Strike. I want to make the UVSS more responsible in how it spends our money, and how their decisions affect our day-to-day lives on campus. I urge all students to read the UVSS budget, and see where they spend your money. It is shocking to see how much goes towards unnecessary expenses. Just a few weeks ago, the UVSS decided to support a nationwide student strike. The promotional material claimed an "overwhelming majority" had voted in favour of the interruption. According to the UVSS figures, 1158 people out of a body of 17,222 students actually voted in favour preventing students from attending classes they had paid for with their hard-earned money. I think this statistic shows how most students feel about our student union – disenchanted and dissatisfied. If I am elected, I will fight for an end to student vs. student politics, and a more down-to-business approach to the practice of representing students. I want a respected and responsible student government.

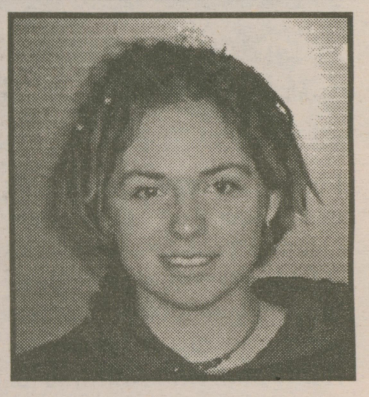
VOTE
MARCH 7,8,9

Sébastien Markley

As a candidate under the Yukon Advantage slate, I'm committed to the following values:

- The UVSS should be an organization that encourages the free expression of ideas and one in which diversity of opinion and culture are celebrated.
- The UVSS is a service, like the Records Office, or the Bookstore. It should encourage political activity, but the fact that students aren't members by choice means that it should be nonpartisan. The society represents the whole student body, and not just the opinions of those who support it.
- We should work to build support from the public when we address concrete student concerns, such as high tuition. To do this, we must appeal to the general population through reasonable arguments that are conciliatory in tone and are not buried under unrelated demands. Confusing the student movement with a labour struggle, or simply engaging in angry slogan chanting may end up alienating the people who can do the most to advance our cause.

As DAL, I won't be biased in favour of a specific political agenda. I am someone who cares deeply about making the right decisions, and I hope you make the right decision by voting for me.



Sarah Metzgner

I am a second year Environmental Studies and Biology major. Over this past year I have been actively involved with UVic Students' Society campaigns as well as activities through the Forest Action Network club and the Environmental Studies course union.

As a student and a member of our diverse community, I believe in the importance of raising our voices about issues that affect our well being.

As your Director at Large I plan to address issues including the following:

- ✔ the right to accessible education
- ✔ increasing awareness and respect for the safety of our fragile environment. I want to focus on waste reduction on campus.
- ✔ expanding the student voice as a whole by encouraging involvement
- ✔ acting on and listen to student concerns

I believe that by uniting the student body and rising against obstacles that affect our lives and beliefs, we can ignite positive change. I feel that I could effectively represent and be an open minded ear and voice for all members of our unique student body.

Lana Mitchell

I will bring diversity of opinion, belief and discipline to the University of Victoria Students' Society. I believe in fair, unbiased treatment of all issues and will work to have the UVSS to look objectively at every concern, major and minor. I will also:

- voice the concerns of all students, not just the majority.
- have the UVSS review all old policies, particularly those concerning allocation of funds, student fees, and mandatory UVSS membership.

continued

VOTE
TUES. MAR. 7 9 - 4
WED. MAR. 8 NOON - 8
THURS. MAR. 9 9 - 4

ALL CANDIDATES FORUMS

THURS, **MAR. 2nd**
12:30 - 2:30pm
CINECENTA,
STUDENT UNION BUILDING

MON, **MAR. 6th**
12:30 - 2:30pm
MICHÈLE PUJOL ROOM,
STUDENT UNION BUILDING

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • DIRECTOR AT LARGE

continued from page 4

- work to change the policy regarding payment of UVSS fees during co-op terms, as a former co-op student myself I disagree with it.
- support the rights of women and minorities and work to make this a safe, equal-opportunity campus.

I believe in a post-secondary education, which is accessible to all, of high quality and recognizes the validity of all students' rights.

Shana Robinson

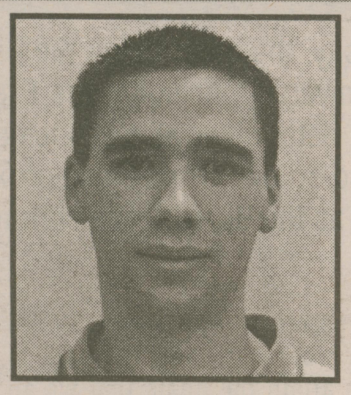
I am a third year student in the Faculty of Social Science studying Political Science and Sociology. If elected my priorities will be:

- ✔ Open communication
- ✔ Continuing the fight for accessible education
- ✔ Accessible quality child care
- ✔ Ensuring that this campus is a safe campus for all students regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, or belief

I have many years of experience in the area of student representation. At the University of Victoria I have represented the Native Student Union on the Board of Directors, and am currently the Social Cultural Councilor. I am also an active participant in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). I am the current Chairperson for the National Aboriginal Caucus, and the incumbent BC Aboriginal Students Liaison for the BC Provincial Executive. I was a volunteer for the ACCESS 2000 campaign, and am committed to continuing the fight for high quality, accessible education for anyone who wishes to continue their educational goals.

I want to represent students on the University of Victoria Student's Society Board of Directors because I believe that we need open reliable representation.

Bring Your Student Card



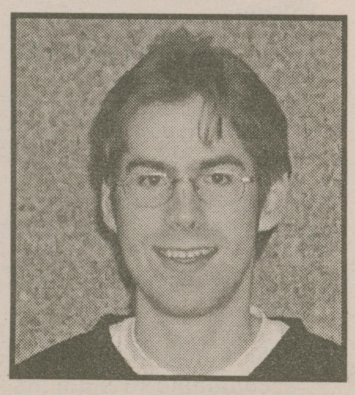
Ryan Roycroft

What is the purpose of the UVSS, some wonder? Must it be nothing but a mouthpiece for certain agendas, repeating the same old tired ideas of Marx, Lenin and Stalin? Or could it be more? I say yes, it can!

I would like to see a Students Society which is open and accountable, a body of support for all students, regardless of their beliefs. I don't feel the job of a students society is to pretend that it is a labour union. We are not workers, fighting the oppression of the University. It is the job of a student society to work with the university officials in order to provide the best possible services for the students.

I disagree with some recent UVSS Board moves, including the charging of Society fees to co-op students, with the Pepsi Exclusivity deal, and with political stands the UVSS seems to take. As a member of the Yukon Advantage Slate, I would work hard to make the UVSS accessible for all students.

Just remember this - University is meant for learning, but let's have some fun, too. There's no need to take anything too seriously, after all, it's only life!



John Thompson

I'm a second year English major, with experience both as an activist and as an active member of the UVSS. Through these roles, I've gained the skills and experience necessary in participating in the decision-making process of the Society.

My experience includes:

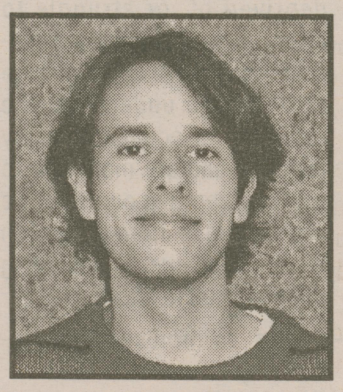
- ✔ Organizer, anti-WTO campaign
- ✔ Organizer, Access 2000 campaign
- ✔ Organizer, Free the Mexican Students campaign

I'm committed to goals concerning social justice, but am also approachable and open-minded, and always welcome opinions from differing viewpoints. In order for the UVSS to serve the students who fund it, we need to overcome cynicism and apathy while increasing student participation.

As Director at Large, I will:

- ✔ Strive towards increasing student participation within the society
- ✔ Continue to work for accessible, high quality education
- ✔ Ensure that the UVSS is accessible and accommodates the diversity of students on campus
- ✔ Ensure that the Board of Directors is an open and accessible decision making body

I have both the skills and commitment needed to fulfill my duties. Together, we have the potential to make a real change both on campus and beyond; let's work towards personal and collective empowerment. **Vote John Thompson!**



Brendan Van Deusen

Hi there! I am a second year Theatre and Philosophy student who is open minded and thinks critically. I have been an active member of our Student's Society for the past two years. I will utilize my experience and skills to represent you on the UVic Students' Society Board of Directors. My experience includes:

- ✔ Vice President, Students for a Free Tibet 99/00
- ✔ Student representative, Theatre Department Chair Search Committee 99/00
- ✔ Organizer, Access 2000 campaign
- ✔ Organizer, anti-WTO campaign
- ✔ Director at Large, Students for a Free Tibet 98/99

In addition to being involved in the Students' Society, I will be on Senate in the upcoming year. This will allow me to effectively communicate between the university administration and the students and assure you that our best interests as students are not overlooked.

In the coming year I will ensure that all decisions made on campus contribute towards improving the quality and accessibility of education, and providing an environment of respect and tolerance for people of all class, ability, and persuasion.

Sarah Webb

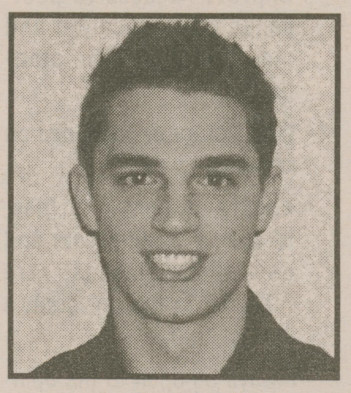
I am an energetic second year Biology major with a commitment to quality education here at UVic.

As your Director at Large I will:

- ✔ Maintain open communication with students; addressing concerns efficiently and democratically.
- ✔ Promote student involvement and interest in the UVSS.
- ✔ Ensure that the SUB is environmentally responsible.
- ✔ Campaign against corporate globalization of post-secondary education.
- ✔ Continue to advocate for tuition reductions and grant increases.

As a fellow student I can understand the importance of dedicating resources to ensure a quality education and a welcoming and enjoyable campus. I believe in hard work and a commitment to our school. As your Director at Large I will use your ideas and concerns to prioritize the work of the Students' Society.

Exercise your right – Vote Sarah Webb!



Keir Wilmut

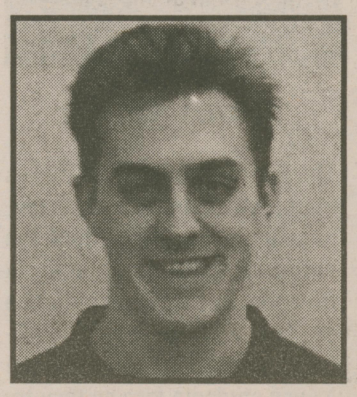
DO YOU FEEL UNREPRESENTED?

Let me begin by stating the obvious: the majority of students at UVic do not feel represented by the UVSS. I can't say I blame them: the UVSS as it stands today has made itself largely irrelevant to the education of most students. With revenues of over seven and a half million dollars and as the voice of fifteen thousand UVic students in many matters that directly affect you, it shouldn't be.

I think it is time for the silent majority at UVic to make their voice heard. If elected, I make the commitment to:

- ✔ Work with the university to lobby for an emphasis on affordable, accessible, *quality* education ;
- ✔ Examine why the four UVSS executives have received pay hikes of *25%* over the past three years ;
- ✔ Ask how the UVSS can claim to be against corporate involvement on campus while at the same time signing a monopoly deal with Pepsi ;
- ✔ Create a more open, representative, and responsible UVSS.

Questions? Comments? Want to help? Send me e-mail at kwilmut@uvic.ca.



Chuck Wootten

I'm in third year completing a double major in History and Political Science. I was on the Executive Student Council in grade 12 and have been on the UVic Residence Student Council for three years. I'm also an active member of the UVic Young Liberals. I am pro choice and definitely **pro Coke.** I believe the Library should get more funding to buy more up-to-date books and journals. I agree with a continued tuition freeze, but realistically it would be better for the federal and provincial government to provide students with loans or grants. For our fellow Co-op students, I am opposed to them paying service fees, such as recreation and UVSS operational fees, while on their work term. Sub-nite is also important to UVic students. I would ensure that the line up for Vertigo is shortened and streamlined. As well, I believe that residence students need to have their concerns addressed and thus be given a voice in our student government. It is important for services, such as the residence cafeteria to be classified as an essential university service. Students need to be fed regardless of whether there is another CUPE labour strike.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE! USE IT!

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors is one of the two major governing bodies of the University, the other being the Senate. The Board maintains and builds the University buildings and properties, appoints the staff of the University including the President, Vice Presidents and Deans, establishes faculties and departments on the recommendation of Senate, determines all fees including tuition fees, administers the University assets, provides for student loans, approves the University budget, and so on. It meets approximately every 7 weeks from September to June. Board members usually serve on two Board committees as well as the Board. The committees meet one week before the Board meeting.

Andrea Coulter

The Board of Governors makes important financial and academic decisions that affect the entire campus. As an actively involved fourth year science student with an interdisciplinary focus, I understand the issues students face as they try to obtain the education so critically needed in today's society. In my year as a BoG and senate representative I have gained the skills and experience necessary to work toward solutions.

If re-elected, I will continue to:

- ✔ *Oppose increased fees for students.*
- ✔ Protect educational quality. Larger classes are not a viable option.
- ✔ Recognize campus diversity and support equity programs.
- ✔ Support flexibility in course scheduling. Classes must match demand.
- ✔ Maintain academic integrity and autonomy by limiting corporate influence.
- ✔ Advocate for professor appointment and promotion based on teaching excellence and student feedback in addition to research performance.
- ✔ Promote the expansion of bursaries, scholarships, work-study positions and co-op placements.
- ✔ Increase student involvement in decision making.

Only 2 of the 15 board members are students, so it is important that we have comprehensive and capable representation to ensure that the views of students are strongly upheld, especially under the leadership of a new university president.

Re-elect Andrea for effective student representation!

Vote

Jonas Gifford

I joined the student movement last year by running for UVSS director at large. I discovered first-hand how the student cause has endless work to be done, work that requires countless hours from talented and dedicated students.

The Board of Governors is the university's main financial body, and as students, we need vigilant and experienced student representatives on it. I am running this year to continue my work for the student cause.

This year, I have been very active in UVSS work. I worked very hard on the enormously successful Access 2000 strike and demonstration, and have worked on many UVSS and UVic committees.

As your board of governors representative next year, I will work to

- improve access to post-secondary education and maintain academic standards,
- fight corporate influence on campus,
- ensure student priorities, including waiting lists and cancelled classes, are reflected in the university's budget, and
- always be open to the opinions and concerns of students.

The provincial government holds a majority vote on the Board of Governors, and students have only two representatives. Ensure that student issues are heard. Email me any time at jgifford@uvic.ca.

EXERCISE YOUR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

Stephen MacDonald

I believe that an education is a valuable tool in today's society. Education, however, does not just provide a path for the future, it also provides unique experiences and everlasting memories. It is unfortunate that so many people are deprived of, or struggle to attain, such a useful and precious asset. For all of us here at UVic who understand the value of our education, enjoy learning, and are motivated to continue applying ourselves we are facing a time in which quality education is becoming more difficult to afford.

I want to represent the students by:

1. Fighting against government funding-cuts, reduction of social programs, rising student-debt, and increasing tuition rates. The importance of education cannot be contested, and I think it is vital to have a student on the Board of Governors and Senate who understands the financial difficulties of going to university.
2. Increasing the support, awareness, and involvement of the community and local businesses. By communicating, interacting, and exchanging more with the businesses in the city, UVic can help its students achieve their objectives and enhance the learning experience for everyone.
3. Improving the quality of our education experience. This includes improving the quality of outdoor and indoor recreational facilities, updating lab equipment, helping solve the problem of crowded classes and long waitlists, increasing access to facilities, and freezing ancillary fees without sacrificing service.

So many of these types of positions are filled by students who are satisfied once they have just been elected, but I believe the University and the students need someone who is ambitious, energetic, passionate, and will not back down from challenges. You, the students, are my team and I will work hard and compete to attain the goals that we all share.

Christopher Moon

A Fourth-Year Sociology Major with a minor in Political Science, I have been a student at UVic since 1995. I have five years' experience with Student Representation at UVic. I feel I have a keen understanding of how best to represent the issues of Students on this campus to the Administration. My experience involves:

- Executive Director of Services, University of Victoria Students' Society, two years.
- UVSS Board of Directors, Director at Large, two years.
- UPASS negotiations.
- WOW / Orientation organizer.
- Chair of Clubs Council.
- WUSC refugee student program.
- Student Rep to UVic Traffic an Parking.
- Student Rep to UVic Campus Security.

If elected to the University's Board of Governors I will:

- Oppose increased Tuition Fees.
- Ensure that UVic remains accountable to students' academic freedoms by limiting corporate influences.
- Support flexibility in course scheduling.
- Promote diverse and inclusive curricula.
- Encourage expansion of bursaries.
- Fight for increased student representation in all decisions.

I take my commitment seriously and I will let my proven tack-record in representing students speak towards why you should choose me as your elected representative.

POLLING STATIONS

TUES 7
CLEARIHUE
CORNETT
MACLAURIN
MCPHERSON LIBRARY
STUDENT UNION BLDG
UNIVERSITY CENTRE

WED 8
CADBORO COMMONS
CLASSROOM BLDG
CLERIHUE
CORNETT
ELLIOT
ENGINEERING
FINE ARTS
MACLAURIN
MCKINNON GYM
MCPHERSON LIBRARY
STUDENT UNION BLDG
UNIVERSITY CENTRE

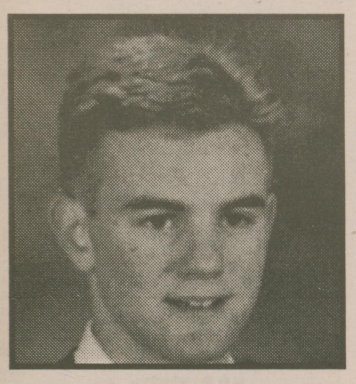
THURS 9
BEGBIE
CLASSROOM BLDG
CORNETT
CLEARIHUE
ELLIOT
ENGINEERING
HSD
MACLAURIN
MCPHERSON LIBRARY
STUDENT UNION BLDG
UNIVERSITY CENTRE

Polling Days

March 7, 8 & 9

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • SENATE

Senate is one of the two major governing bodies of the University. It is concerned with academic governance matters. It determines enrollment and admissions, approves new programs, grants degrees, makes rules for the management of the Library, recommends awards and scholarships to the Board and so on. It meets on the first Wednesday of every month from September to May at 7:30 p.m. In addition, it has a number of committees on which all senators serve. Student senators should serve on at least one Senate committee. There are 16 student senators; **THE FOLLOWING 12 STUDENTS WERE ACCLAIMED.**



Justin Ankenmann

(Humanities)

I am a third year student in Humanities, majoring in Linguistics. I am involved in student issues in the department as I am a member of the Linguistics Course Union Executive.

I am running for Senate because I am interested in student issues on campus. I have just started to get actively involved in the understanding of what is happening on campus. I believe that I can help raise the general awareness of activities of the Senate to the students and vice versa. I believe that I can help to strengthen the bond between the student body and the issues brought before the Senate. As students, it is important to participate in the decisions that affect us and I'm and dedicated to committing my abilities toward this important goal and can offer pragmatic solutions for students.

Marcie Casselman

(Humanities)

I am a third year Humanities student with a deep-rooted interest in the running of the University. As a History Major my involvement began with the History Undergraduate Society. I am HUGS current President, as well as the Majors Representative. In addition, I sit on both the History Board of Directors as well as the History Chair Search Committee. Although my work has been limited to the history department, I understand that the issues for students are campus wide and wish to expand beyond my faculty.

My extensive experience is only one reason why I will be an exceptional asset as a Student Senator. I have seen the lack of student involvement and awareness of the many services that are available. As a student I am also aware of the obstacles to education. If I am elected I will make it my prime objective to work towards an education system that works for the students. I will target the areas that affect students the most: waitlists, class availability, accountability of instructors, education costs, and student service awareness. I am confident that as a member of Senate I will be an effective catalyst to quickly improve students life on campus.

Andrea Coulter

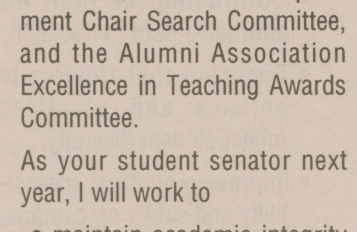
(Science)

The University Senate is involved in academic governance of the university and makes important decisions that affect the entire campus. As an actively involved fourth year science student with an interdisciplinary focus, I understand and have experienced the issues current students from all disciplines face as they try to obtain the education so critically needed in today's society. In my year as a BoG and senate representative I have gained the skills and experience necessary to work toward solutions.

If re-elected, I will continue to:

- ✔ Protect educational quality. Larger classes and program elimination are not an option.
- ✔ Secure flexibility in course scheduling. Classes must match demand.
- ✔ Oppose corporate influence in curricula, research, and campus life, and ensure university decisions and policies reflect high ethical standards.
- ✔ Support library expansion efforts.
- ✔ Advocate for professor appointment and promotion based on teaching excellence and student feedback, in addition to research performance.
- ✔ Promote the expansion of bursaries, scholarships, work study positions and co-op placements.
- ✔ Increase student involvement in decision making.

Re-elect Andrea for effective student representation!



Jonas Gifford

(Science)

Senate is the main academic body of the university. We need vigilant and experienced student representatives to promote urgent student issues. I am running this year to continue the work for the student cause I began on the UVSS board last year.

This year, I have been very active in UVSS work. I worked very hard on the enormously successful Access 2000 strike and demonstration, and have worked on many UVSS committees. I represented students on the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee, the Mathematics and Statistics Department Chair Search Committee, and the Alumni Association Excellence in Teaching Awards Committee.

As your student senator next year, I will work to

- maintain academic integrity and fight corporate influence on campus,
- improve access to post-secondary education and maintain academic standards,
- ensure that senate decisions reflect students academic and political priorities,
- work to end waiting lists, and stop the cancellation of courses,
- encourage hiring tenure-track faculty,
- promote open and standardized teaching evaluations, and
- always be open to the opinions and concerns of students.

As a senator I will continue to put student issues first. Email me any time at jgifford@uvic.ca.

BRING STUDENT ID & VOTE

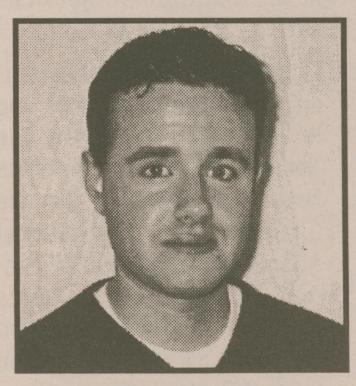
Paul Holden

(Engineering)

I'm a fourth year Computer Science student. I have been an active member of Senate for the past three years. Here are some of the things I've been up to over the past year

- Served on the Senate Committee on Academic Standards, where I helped formulate policy on how changes in degree programs affect currently registered students; drafted new regulations for Academic Minors; and commented on the creation of a new "Qualifying Student" status for people who wish to return to University to upgrade their skills.
- Helped out on the picket line for the Access 2000 day of action.
- Forced the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering to implement a fair registration policy for Software Engineering courses. During the upcoming year I will continue to:
- Fight to maintain the tuition freeze
- Keep an eye out for Senate and Administration proposals that threaten our public education system.

I hope you will consider voting for me in this year's elections. If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail me at: pholden@csc.uvic.ca, or check out my web page (http://www.csc.uvic.ca/~pholden/) for more detailed information on what I've been doing on Senate.



Edward Johnson

(Social Sciences)

I am a third year Social Science student, majoring in Political Science, who is motivated to work on behalf of UVic's student body in the Senate. Over my three years as a student at UVic, I have become aware of the issues that pertain to this campus. As an active member of the Peer Counseling organization and the Career Development Committee on campus last year, I listened to many academically related concerns. If elected, I wish to apply myself to voicing such concerns at a level where will be heard.

If elected, I will work to:

- ✔ Represent the interests of the studen body
- ✔ Promote an increase in the quality of education students receive
- ✔ Protect educational programs from being cut
- ✔ Decrease waitlists
- ✔ Support the increase of bursaries, scholarships, grants, coop placements and work-study positions
- ✔ Recommend honorary degree candidates that reflect the interest of the students

Overall, I plan to listen to the students of this campus and support your concerns. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at ejohnson@uvic.ca. I look forward to working in the Senate and would appreciate your support.

Vote Edward Johnson for Senate

Stephen MacDonald

(Business)

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Chris Moon

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- Encourage expansion of bursaries.
- Fight for increased student representation in all decisions.

I take my commitment seriously and I will let my proven track-record in representing students speak towards why you should choose me as your elected representative.

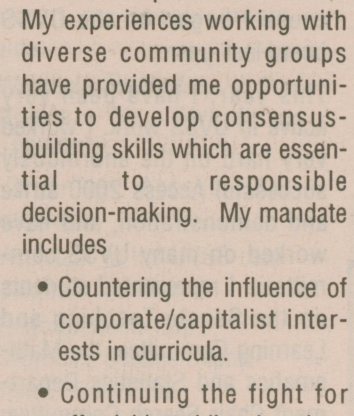
Shana Robinson

(Social Sciences)

I am currently a third year student at the University of Victoria, studying Political Science and Sociology. My concerns for student issues at UVIC are long term as I have a daughter who may wish to attend this institution one day.

I have experienced first hand the many difficulties students face during their studies at UVIC. Specifically with large waiting lists, courses being cut at the last minute, lack of available textbooks because of class sizes and the difficulty of accessing student services such as academic advisors.

I have many years of experience on various councils and board. I am currently the Social Cultural Councillor of the Native Student Union, sit as the Chairperson for the National Aboriginal Caucus of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), and am the incumbent BC Aboriginal Students Liaison to the BC CFS Executive Committee. It is this experience that provides me with a strong understanding of student issues and the ability to provide students with a strong voice in the UVIC Senate. I possess the ability to engage in debate effectively for students. If elected I will both listen to students concerns and fight to ensure that those concerns are not only heard, but acted on.



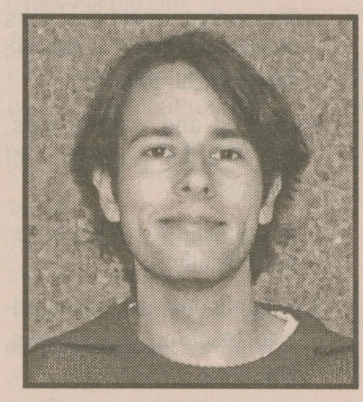
Rebecca Russell

(Humanities)

As a powerful decision-making body at UVic, the Senate offers students a voice in academic and financial proceedings. I am a Women s Studies student and an enthusiastic and informed political activist. As a member of the Senate I will use my voice to represent a critical feminist analysis. I will work to create a climate of inclusion and recognition where the voices and interests of those who have been silenced are present and heard. My experiences working with diverse community groups have provided me opportunities to develop consensus-building skills which are essential to responsible decision-making. My mandate includes

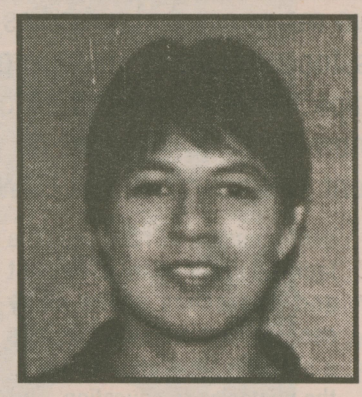
- Countering the influence of corporate/capitalist interests in curricula.
- Continuing the fight for affordable public education.
- Ensuring that University policies and practices reflect student diversity.
- Improving physical accessibility and safety on campus.

I will bring a critical analysis of power and representation to the Senate and will strive to have Senate decisions truly reflect student's interests.



Brendan Van Deusen

(Fine Arts)



Penny White

(Science)

Hi! I'm a third year biology/environmental studies student, returning to UVic. I am running for Senate to voice the fact that education is inaccessible. This issue was forced to my attention by talking with everyday people out there who are afraid of the debt load incurred by students across our country. I participated independently in the WTO protests. I also organized around Access 2000, which I saw as a necessary act to help shrink waitlists, lower tuition across the country, and to provide centres of higher learning with the tools required. I will bring to Senate the experience of a politically active working class individual. Mom and Dads, people dealing with poverty, minority groups, and so on, all have as much of a right to education as the privileged do. I will also fight the corporatization of UVic and bring a feminist perspective to the table. I look forward to working hard to represent the students on Senate, where students can and do make a difference in how the university is run.

POLLING STATIONS

TUES 7
CLEARIHUE
CORNETT
MACLAURIN
MCPHERSON LIBRARY
STUDENT UNION BLDG
UNIVERSITY CENTRE

WED 8
CADBORO COMMONS
CLASSROOM BLDG
CLEARIHUE
CORNETT
ELLIOT
ENGINEERING
FINE ARTS
MACLAURIN
MCKINNON GYM
MCPHERSON LIBRARY
STUDENT UNION BLDG
UNIVERSITY CENTRE

THURS 9
BEGBIE
CLASSROOM BLDG
CORNETT
CLEARIHUE
ELLIOT
ENGINEERING
HSD
MACLAURIN
MCPHERSON LIBRARY
STUDENT UNION BLDG
UNIVERSITY CENTRE

AN OPPORTUNITY
YOU WON'T WANT TO
MISS!

ALL CANDIDATES FORUM

THURS, MAR. 2nd
12:30 - 2:30pm
CINECENTA,
STUDENT UNION BUILDING

MON, MAR. 6th
12:30 - 2:30pm
Michele Pujol Room,
STUDENT UNION BUILDING

ALL 12 STUDENT SENATORS WERE ACCLAIMED